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The 1955 History of  
Steuben County,  
Indiana

An Historical, Pictorial,  
Complete County Atlas and  
Biographical County Album.

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By HARVEY W. MORLEY

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The 1955 History,  
Complete County Atlas,  
Pictorial and Biographical  
Album of Steuben County,  
Indiana

By HARVEY W. MORLEY  
Editor and Publisher

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By Harvey W. Morley



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## DEDICATION

With loving recollection I  
dedicate this volume to the  
kindly woman who was  
my inspiration thru more  
than thirty years of happy  
married life, as it is today.

Edna B. Cox-Morley died March  
3, 1931, bequeathing a hallowed  
memory. Her life motto, which  
she exemplified each day,  
was,

"Any good that I may do,  
let me do it now. Let me  
not defer or delay it, for I  
shall not pass this way again."

Harvey W. Morley

Transcribed 10.10.00





## Preface

The progress and prosperity of Steuben, which I characterize as the Recreation-Plus County, has been made by the men and women who have pioneered in it, the elderly ones who subdued our forests, drained our swamps, cleared our land, enriched our farms, built our roads, established and maintained our schools and churches, our business and manufacturing enterprises. Their early efforts and sacrifices have been extended, and improved upon in some instances, by their sons and daughters who profited by those original hardships and promotions.

This History and illustrated Steuben Story is not the work of the Publisher-Historian alone, but is a community effort, contributed to by many civic-minded leaders of this unusual county. They have given unstintingly of their time and ability to aid in preparing for posterity a true record of our development, from the pioneer days down to our proud position today. The deeds, motives, hopes and aspirations of those who have gone before have left us a heritage which should be, and here is, properly and permanently preserved for coming generations.

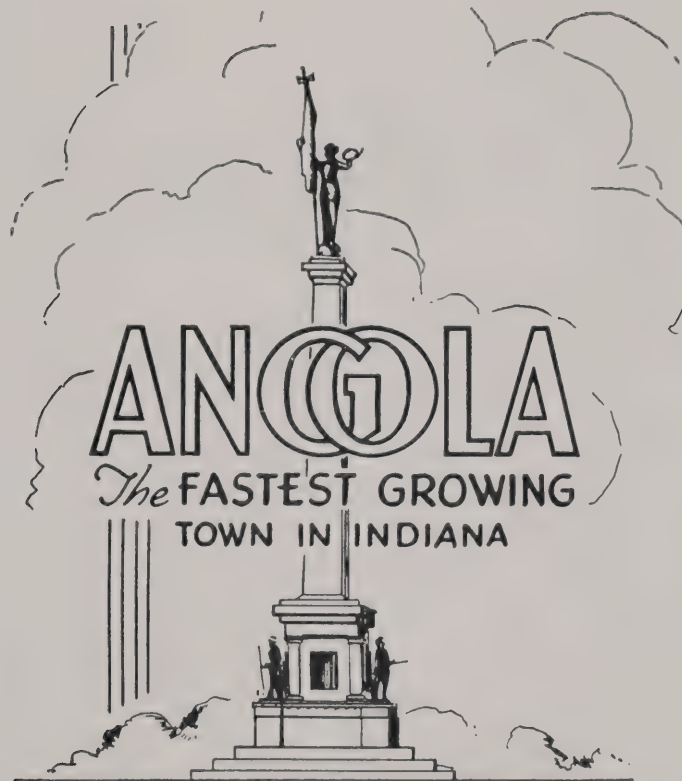
The Publisher extends his thanks to these many worthy writers who have so ably augmented his efforts with chapters about various historical, educational, social and other assigned subjects upon which they could speak or write from their personal knowledge and contact. The many biographies inserted are a valued contribution, which contain much of historical value, and will be treasured in the libraries of the homes of Steuben County, and in many public libraries for which they have been ordered.

Believing that these combined efforts will be forever regarded as a keepsake, the publisher confidently presents it as a memorial to the worthy ones who have gone before, and a souvenir for their descendants.

Harvey W. Morley



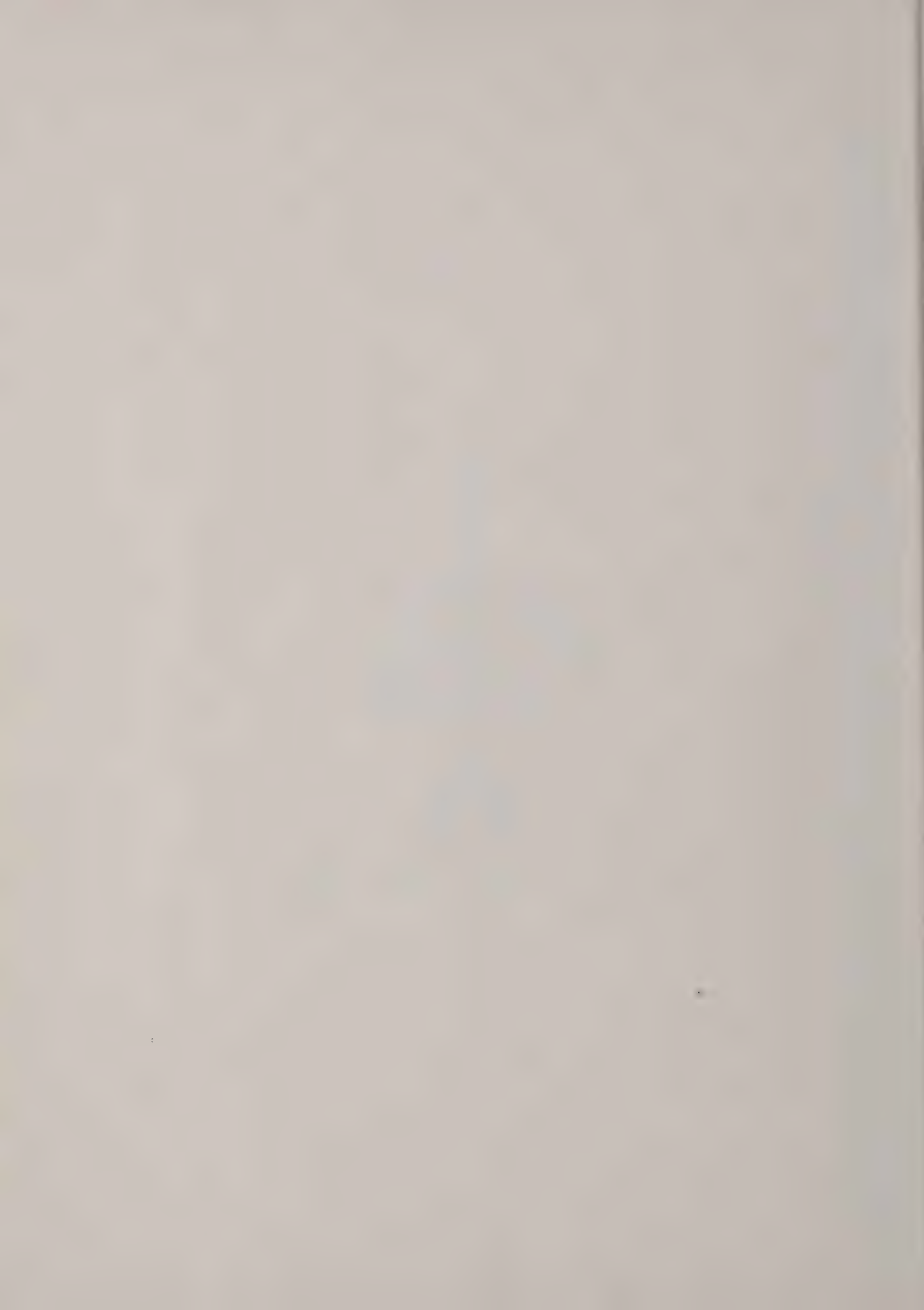




BUSINESS IS ALWAYS GOOD IN ANGOLA









Harvey W. Morley, Publisher





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# Public Officials of Steuben County



## Steuben County Officials

*By Lester Porter*

In the pages to follow, we have endeavored to give you as correctly as possible, a listing of the County Officials who have in the past, and those who are now at the present time, presiding over our governmental offices here in Angola.

### OFFICIAL DIRECTORY of the

County Officers, from the organization of the County, to the present time.

#### County Commissioners

Seth W. Murray	1837-1839
Jonas Twichell	1837-1839
James Clark	1837-1838
John Russell	1838-1840
James Perfect	1839
Stephen A. Powers	1839-1840
Angus McKinlay	1839-1842
William M. Cary	1840-1841
Jonas Twichell	1841
Samuel A. Stewart	1840-1846
Asher Benedict	1841-1844
James Clark	1842-1848
Calvin Powers	1844-1847
Orrin Goodrich	1846-1849
Amasa M. Cleveland	1847-1850
James Perfect	1848-1851
Samuel A. Stewart	1849-1852
George W. Balding	1850-1853
John W. Carter	1851-1857
John Nichols	1852-1855
Philo Clark	1853-1856
Charles L. Luce	1855-1858
Calvin Powers	1856-1859

James Clark	1857-1860
John Green	1858-1861
Norris S. Bennett	1859-1861
Charles F. Kinney	1860-1861
Daniel H. Roberts	1861-1866
Abner Winsor	1861-1862
Robert Patterson	1862-1863
Frederick Butler	1862-1866
Justin Darling	1863
Norris S. Bennett	1863-1865
John Dygert	1865-1868
James Carter	1866-1869
John McClew	1866-1873
Michael Cline	1868-1874
A. Judson Corbin	1869-1875
Clayton Mallory	1873-1879
Charles Bachelor	1874-1877
John Cameron	1875-1878
A. Judson Corbin	1877-1880
Dwight B. Lewis	1878
Moses Gonser	1878-1881
John McClew	1879-1882
R. H. Goddard	1880-1883
David K. Swift	1881-1887
Wm. W. Turner	1882-1885
Jonas Twichell	1883-1886
H. C. Shutts	1885-1891
Dan P. Rummel	1886-1892
D. B. Lewis	1887-1892
Theron Murray	1891-1897
Morris Brown	1892-1898
A. H. Omstead	1893-1899
George S. McNett	1897-1900
Frank H. Alcott	1899-1905
George Ford	1903-1909
Fremont Folck	1905-1911
David W. Haskins	1905-1911
Hiram C. Handy	1910-1916
C. W. Dally	1911-1917
James Harpham	1912-1918
F. G. Salisbury	1916-1922
Nathan E. Sickles	1917-1923
George M. Brown	1918-1924
Dorsey Reese	1919-1925
Charles S. Shutts	1922-1928
Hugh L. Gilbert	1924-1930



## STEUBEN COUNTY HISTORY

Ira Bowerman	1926-1932
J. C. McNaughton	1928-1934
Emmett B. Chard	1932-1938
H. C. Doty	1933-1934

Mr. Doty died in 1934 and J. W. Learned was appointed to serve the unexpired term.

J. W. Learned	1934-1939
C. A. Mallory	1934-1940
John O. Matson	1936-1942
Theron E. Miller	1937-1943
John I. Meyers	1938-1944
Roy A. Sanders	1942-1948
Charles Watts	1943-1949
J. Preston Moody	1944-1950
Oscar Imhof	1948-1954
Jack Downing	1949-1955
Paul Kratzer	1950-1956
George Butler	1954

J. Wesley Allen and Albertus Collins elected in 1954.

**County Recorders**

James McConnell	1837-1843
Chester Stocker	1843-1850
Peter McKinlay	1850-1855
Lewis E. Carver	1855-1859
Orlon W. Parish	1859-1863
Marvin B. Butler	1863-1871
Robert V. Carlin	1871-1879
W. Homer Twichell	1879-1887
Adelbert F. Day	1887-1895
Thaddeus K. Miller	1895-1899
W. M. Strayer	1899-1904
Miles Jones	1904-1908
Warren D. Wells	1908-1912
Harley L. Griffith	1912-1916
Harvey Shoup	1916-1924
Loren Clay	1924-1929

Loren Clay died January 23, 1929 and Frank O. Watkins was appointed to fill vacancy for balance of the year.

Henry Holderness appointed for year

	1930
Ethel Weaver	1931-1939
Mary E. Duckwall	1939-1947
Mary Kiess	1947-1955

Faye Erwin elected in 1954 to take office Jan. 1, 1955.

**School Examiners and Superintendents**

Prior to 1852, School Examiners were appointed by the Judge of the Circuit Court. From 1852 to

1861, Examiners were deputies of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Under these systems the office was held at different times by James McConnell, Stephen A. Powers, Elisha Steer, Leland H. Stocker, Jacob Patch, Jesse M. Gale, Thomas B. Morse, W. Irving Howard and others.

From 1861 to 1873, Examiners were appointed by the Board of County Commissioners.

Luke Barr	1861-1865
John Kelland	1865-1866
Lyman R. Williams	1866-1869
Robert V. Carlin	1869-1871
John W. Cowen	1871-1883

In 1873, the office of County Superintendent was created. The office was held by John W. Cowen until 1875 when the office was abolished by law and the office of Examiner was restored. The latter position was held by Lyman R. Williams until 1876, when the Supreme Court ruled against the last change in the law, leaving the law of 1873 in force. Under this law:

John W. Cowen	1873-1875
R. W. Williams	1875-1877
Cyrus Cline	1877-1883
Robert V. Carlin	1883-1897
Homer Dilworth	1897-1911
H. Lyle Shank	1911-1920
Glen O. Simpson	1920-1929
Robert O'Connell	1929-1933
Frank Hammond	1933-1949
Ross Wilkinson	1949-1957

(elected to serve)

**Clerks of the Circuit Court**

James McConnell	1837-1843
Rufus Beall	1843
William M. Cary	1843-1844
Chester Stocker	1844-1851
Leland H. Stocker	1851-1855
Frederick C. Chapin	1855-1859
Levi A. Thompson	1859-1863
Henry Linder	1863-1867
Germ Brown	1867-1875
Joseph Butler	1875-1879
Wm. T. Kimsey	1887-1895
John B. Parsell	1895-1899
Fred Schneider	1900-1904
Ezra L. Dodge	1904-1908
John B. Allman	1908-1912
Frank Hughes	1912-1916

Ralph Osterhout	1916-1920
A. J. Collins	1920-1924
Harvey E. Shoup	1924-1932
Rolland Weaver	1932-1940
Wade E. Libey	1940-1948
Eugene Maloy	1948-1956

**County Assessors**

In about the year of 1915 the office of County Assessor was created. Thomas P. French held the office until 1919.

Edward George	1919-1923
Ray Shank	1923-1930
Oliver Benfer	1930-1943
Theron Miller	1943-1951
Ralph Caswell	1951-1955

Mr. Caswell re-elected in 1954 to serve another four year term.

**County Sheriffs**

William M. Cary	1837-1840
Rufus Beall	1840-1843
William Wilder	1843-1845
John L. Cary	1845-1847
George W. McConnell	1847-1849
George D. Waring	1849-1851
Simeon C. Aldrich	1851-1853
William Hough	1853-1857
Peter Bowman	1857-1861
W. Homer Twichell	1861-1865
Sylvanus B. George	1865-1869
Ora Pierce, Jr.	1869-1873
Leander Chase	1873-1875
William Wicoff	1875-1879
William H. Keyes	1879-1883
Allen Fast	1883-1887
William G. Moss	1887-1891
Thomas E. Legg	1891-1895
F. W. Bodley died before taking office	
Henry Hauver	1895-1898
Ben Hayward	1903-1907
George Willennar	1907-1909
Latta Hershey	1909-1913
Austin Parsell	1913-1917
George Delancey	1917-1921
Frank L. Adams	1921-1925
Charles Zimmerman	1925-1929
Dorsey Folck	1929-1933
Don Cole	1933-1937
Ben H. James	1937-1941

Paul Duguid	1941-1945
Rus Hershey	1945-1949
Ray Gilbert	1949-1955
Harry Dirrim	1955

**County Auditors**

The Clerk of the Circuit Court was ex-officio County Auditor until 1841.

Adonijah Smith	1841-1844
Daniel E. Palmer	1844-1847
Leland H. Stocker	1847-1851
William Carkhuff	1851-1856
Samuel W. Scoville	1856-1860
Samuel E. Heath	1860-1864
Francis Macartney	1864-1872
Marvin B. Butler	1872-1876
Jesse H. Carpenter	1876-1880
Robert H. Johnson	1880-1888
Sol A. Wood	1888-1896
Jas. B. Watkins	1896-1898
Daniel A. Douglas	1898-1905
Thomas L. Gillis	1905-1909
James A. Shaughniss	1909-1913
Frank C. Dewey	1913-1917
Irvin W. Pence	1917-1921
Frank O. Watkins	1921-1929
Jesse O. Covell	1929-1933
Fred A. Emerson	1933-1937
Jesse O. Covell	1937-1945
Carl Peachey	1945-1953
Loretta Sanders	1953

**County Treasurers**

Joseph Pearce	1837-1840
William G. Farmer	1840-1841
Erastus Farnham	1841-1842
Reuben B. Hopkins	1842-1844
Jesse J. Mugg	1844-1850
Lewis E. Carver	1850-1853
George Emerson	1853-1857
William H. H. Day	1857-1859
Benjamin F. Dawson	1859-1861
Francis Macartney	1861-1863
W. Irving Howard	1863-1867
Charles F. Kinney	1867-1871
Charles D. Chadwick	1871-1875
George L. Luce	1875-1877
Samuel Beight	1877-1881
Lyman R. Williams	1881-1885
Clay Lemon	1885-1889
Chester V. Tuttle	1889-1893
Lorenzo Taylor	1893-1898

## STEUBEN COUNTY HISTORY

Albert W. Long	1898-1902
George Willennar	1902-1906
Burdette B. Goodale	1906-1910
Jesse Crampton	1910-1914
Frank Dole	1914-1918
Fred Sheldon	1918-1922
Earl Tuttle	1922-1926
Ella Fisher	1926-1930
Frank O. Watkins	1930-1934
Carl Dygert	1934-1936
Fred Aldrich	1936-1940
Lester Porter	1940-1944
Ben H. James	1944-1948
Kenneth Maugherman	1948-1952
Alvin C. Williams	1952-

**County Surveyors**

This office was filled from 1837 to 1847 by Aaron B. Goodwin, Gideon Ball, Stephen A. Powers, Erastus Farnham, Theron Storrs.

Stephen A. Powers	1847-1853
Erastus Farnham	1853-1859
Pliny Roby	1859-1865
Elbert N. Woodford	1865-1875
Frank B. VanAuken	1875-1877
Abram B. Stevens	1877-1879
Charles A. Shackford	1879-1881
Robert G. Morley	1881-1885
Newton W. Gilbert	1885-1890
Frank Noyes	1891-1894
B. F. Ellis	1895-1898
Thomas P. French	1898-1903
Elmer Orewiler	1903-1907
Charles Harmon	1907-1911
Cary Covell	1911-1915
Lauren Smith	1915-1917

Lauren Smith died in 1917 and Fred Hubbell was appointed to fill vacancy

Fred Hubbell	1917-1925
Donald Gilbert	1925-1933
Floyd Smith	1933-1935
Charles Duckwall	1935-1936
Charles Duckwall died in 1936 and Donald Gilbert appointed to fill vacancy	
Donald Gilbert	1936

**County Councilmen**

List of past councilmen unavailable. Present councilmen are as follows:

John I. Meyers	1955
Lloyd Killinger	1955

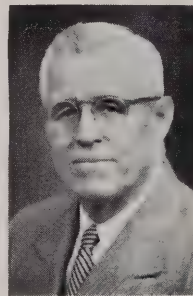
Wayne Hughes	1955
Emmet Chard	1955
Worthy Crowl	1955
Charles Antrup	1955
Harley Cosper	1955

**County Coroner**

Dr N. W. Rausch is the present County Coroner (1955.)

**County Farm Superintendent**

Weir Snyder is the present County Farm Superintendent (1955.)

**Steuben County Township Officials**

*By Carl Peachey*

In preparing a record of elected Township Officials, the work has been difficult because of incomplete records, especially for the period between 1888 and 1948. For this particular period, the only source of information available, was the old election reports on file in the office of the Clerk of Steuben County Circuit Court.

No records are available prior to 1844 and some of the records are rather incomplete and hard to decipher.

In the August election of 1844, Charles P. Squires was elected Justice of the Peace of Jackson Township, the only Township Official elected at that election.

**August Election—1850****ASSESSORS**

Millgrove Township	Miles Coe
Jamestown Township	Lucien B. Eaton
Fremont Township	C. VanHorn
York Township	John Woodward
Scott Township	Eli Burke
Pleasant Township	Thomas Mugg
Jackson Township	Albert R. Crandall
Salem Township	Otis Wisel
Steuben Township	Samuel Carter
Otsego Township	Jared H. Minor
Richland Township	David K. Toney



## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Clear Lake Township Stephen A. Powers  
York Township Martin Eldridge

**August Election—1851**

## ASSESSORS

Millgrove Township George Brown  
Jamestown Township (No election)  
Fremont Township Orlon W. Parish  
Clear Lake Township Lynn Handy  
York Township Alonzo Dunham  
Scott Township Samuel Jones  
Pleasant Township Thomas Mugg  
Jackson Township Aaron Smith  
Salem Township Euwara T. Neummard  
Steuben Township Samuel Carter  
Otsego Township Jared N. Minor  
Richland Township James Emhart

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jamestown Township John McClew

**April Election—1852**

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Fremont Township Archibald Crawford  
Jamestown Township Warren Wheaton  
York Township Jacob O. Rose  
Jackson Township Dennis Dean  
Millgrove Township (Sullivan U. Clark)  
(William S. Joyce)

**October Election—1852**

## ASSESSORS

Millgrove Township Hezekiah Smith  
Jamestown Township Warren Wheaton  
Fremont Township O. W. Parish  
Clear Lake Township Lynn Handy  
York Township John Woodward  
Scott Township Samuel Scales  
Pleasant Township Thomas Mugg  
Jackson Township David W. Sams  
Salem Township C. C. Bodley  
Steuben Township James Perfect  
Otsego Township Jonah H. Minor  
Richland Township Francis Derens

**April Election—1854**

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Millgrove Township Cephas McCullen  
Jamestown Township W. H. H. Day  
Fremont Township George Sowle  
Jackson Township (Columbus C. Bennett)  
(Lewis Conilln)

Otsego Township James Johnson  
Richland Township Henry Fletcher

**October Election—1854**

## ASSESSORS

Millgrove Township Peter Carelton  
Jamestown Township Ransler Wullaco  
Fremont Township Orlon W. Parish  
Clear Lake Township William N. Wilbur  
York Township B. B. Goodale  
Scott Township Samuel E. Jones  
Pleasant Township Daniel Faisons  
Jackson Township Daniel Sams  
Salem Township Orson Woodford  
Steuben Township James Perfect  
Otsego Township Jared Minor  
Richland Township Samuel W. Scoville

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jamestown Township Lorenzo S. Elandge  
Jackson Township Charles Bachelor

**April Election—1855**

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jamestown Township Eden P. McAllister  
Fremont Township Enos Michael  
Clear Lake Township William N. Wilbur  
Scott Township Cornelius Jenkins  
Jackson Township (Peter Eleason)  
(Chas. Briggs)  
Salem Township (William Berien)  
(Benjamin A. Chaffe)  
Steuben Township David Smith  
Richland Township John Cameron

**October Election—1855**

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

York Township Henry Elandgo  
Pleasant Township (Peter Snyder)  
(Geo. W. Meckwin)  
(Christian Fast)  
Otsego Township John Snyder  
Richland Township Horatio E. Gordon

**April Election—1856**

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Fremont Township Jeremiah Tillotson  
Pleasant Township Wm. C. Weicht  
York Township Joseph W. Thomas

**October Election—1856**

## ASSESSORS

Millgrove Township Hezekiah Smith  
Jamestown Township Moses Hastings  
Fremont Township Oscar A. Calvin

Clear Lake Township	Mesit D. Potter
York Township	Francis McCarthey
Scott Township	Job Gifford
Pleasant Township	George C. Latson
Jackson Township	Charles Bachelor
Salem Township	James Aumend
Steuben Township	Abner Winsen
Otsego Township	Jared H. Minor
Richland Township	Wm L. Cary

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township	Penrod Bisber
Jamestown Township	John I. Rubley
Fremont Township	Eben O. Leach
Otsego Township	(Robert E. Long) (William A. Crandall)

**April Election—1857****JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township	Morris H. Haskins
Scott Township	(Rolland Goddard) (John Hardy)
Jackson Township	Harvey H. Fanning
Steuben Township	James Carter
Otsego Township	Henry Amidon

**October Election—1857****JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Steuben Township	Leonard Slaybaugh
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**April Election—1858****JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Jamestown Township	Chas. D. Chadwick
Clear Lake Township	George Snuln
Steuben Township	David Gilbert

**CONSTABLES**

Millgrove Township	(Elishu Fuller) (Lyman N. Lyons)
Jamestown Township	(E. H. Hastings) (G. N. Hobson)
Fremont Township	(Melvin Tillotson) (Phillip Michael)
Clear Lake Township	(William Landis) (Martin Smith)
Pleasant Township	(I. Kimsey) (M. Ineswold) (L. Nells)
Jackson Township	(David Buhn) (Horace E. Davis)
Steuben Township	(Sylvean B. George) (Miles Gilbert)

**TREASURERS (new office)**

Millgrove Township	James Blass
Jamestown Township	Clayton Mallory
Fremont Township	John Schaeffer
Clear Lake Township	Wilson Luter
Pleasant Township	Justin Darling
Jackson Township	William VanHusan
Steuben Township	Tom N. Meserva

**October Election—1858****JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Fremont Township	Jeremiah G. W. Colburn
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**ASSESSORS**

Millgrove Township	Walter Luce
Jamestown Township	Orange Patten
Fremont Township	Willard Scott
Clear Lake Township	S. N. Teft
York Township	Francis McCartney
Scott Township	Job Gifford
Pleasant Township	Daniel L. Dwelben
Jackson Township	Charles Bachelor
Salem Township	J. C. Bodley
Steuben Township	Lucus Perfect
Otsego Township	Jared H. Minor
Richland Township	William S. Cary

**April Election—1859****TRUSTEES (new office)**

Millgrove Township	William S. Joyce
Jamestown Township	Clayton Mallory
Fremont Township	David Schaeffer
Clear Lake Township	Stephen A. Powers
York Township	Jacob McClaskey
Scott Township	Philip B. Lobdell
Pleasant Township	Asa M. Tinker
Jackson Township	Daniel McGale
Salem Township	Sam G. Parsell
Steuben Township	True W. Meserva
Otsego Township	A. J. Carpenter
Richland Township	Noble Matthews

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Jamestown Township	Eben P. McAllister
Fremont Township	Joseph H. Hall
Clear Lake Township	Abram Grant
Scott Township	A. W. Woodworth
Jackson Township	Peter Gleason
Salem Township	Benjamin A. Chaffe
Richland Township	John Cameron

**CONSTABLES**

Millgrove Township	(Elishu Fuller) (W. G. Rathburn)
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Jamestown Township	(Norton Wilder)
	(Samuel Chadwick)
	(Moses Hastings)
Fremont Township	(Phillip Michael)
	(James Petit)
	(Gilbert Dunham)
Clear Lake Township	(Hury Lords)
	(S. A. Teft)
York Township	(James Sloan)
	(Gaier Bank)
Scott Township	(John Hansleman)
	(John McMillen)
	(Henry Lameraux)
Pleasant Township	(Edward Schneider)
	(Israel Kemery)
	(C. L. Gillett)
Jackson Township	(William Bolater)
	(George Cadwell)
Salem Township	(B. C. VanPelt)
	(Neil Ruthvier)
Steuben Township	(S. B. George)
	(Miles Gilhuh)
	(John Stout)
Otsego Township	(John T. Champion)
	(Ora Pierce)
	(George D. Williams)
Richland Township	(James Carlin)
	(John Everhart)

**October Election—1859****JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Fremont Township	Josiah Sabin
York Township	Henry Eldridge
Pleasant Township	(Christian Fast)
	(William Carkhuff)
Salem Township	David Hughes
Otsego Township	John Sinder
Richland Township	J. Wesley Thomas

**April Election—1860****TRUSTEES**

Millgrove Township	Stephen G. Sabin
Jamestown Township	Simeon Gilbert
Fremont Township	Daniel Schaeffer
Clear Lake Township	Stephen A. Powers
York Township	Jacob McClaskey
Scott Township	P. B. Lobdell
Pleasant Township	W. I. Howard
Jackson Township	Daniel Gale
Salem Township	A. G. Parsell
Steuben Township	True Meserva
Otsego Township	A. J. Corbin

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township	Frank A. Rowley
Fremont Township	G. S. Haines
York Township	J. W. Thomas
Pleasant Township	William C. Weicht
Jackson Township	Wallace Clark

**CONSTABLES**

Millgrove Township	Elisha Fuller
Jamestown Township	Moses Hastings
Fremont Township	Jacob Michael
Clear Lake Township	L. N. Jefft
York Township	Gain Burk
Scott Township	John McMallen
Pleasant Township	Charles L. Gilbert
Jackson Township	L. H. Collins
Salem Township	Harmon J. Chaffe
Steuben Township	L. B. George
Otsego Township	George D. Williams

**October Election—1860****ASSESSORS**

Millgrove Township	Hezekiah Smith
Jamestown Township	Samuel Milnes
Fremont Township	Willard L. Scott
Clear Lake Township	William Growthorp
York Township	H. P. Hathaway
Scott Township	C. L. Heath
Pleasant Township	H. A. Wakefield
Jackson Township	Ora Owens
Salem Township	Wm. A. VanCleave
Steuben Township	Hanson B. Knapp
Otsego Township	John D. Rowley

**April Election—1861****TRUSTEES**

Millgrove Township	Stephen C. Sabin
Jamestown Township	Simeon Gilbert
Fremont Township	David Schaeffer
Clear Lake Township	Stephen A. Powers
York Township	Alonzo Dunham
Scott Township	Ziba Jones
Pleasant Township	W. J. Howard
Jackson Township	R. E. Long
Salem Township	D. D. Dennison
Steuben Township	True Meserva
Otsego Township	A. J. Corbin
Richland Township	R. V. Carlin

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township	Morris N. Haskins
Scott Township	(John N. Hardy)
	(Wm. H. Jagger)
Jackson Township	J. N. Osterhout



Steuben Township	James Carter
Otsego Township	Henry Amidon

Salem Township	John Cary
Steuben Township	David Gilbert

**CONSTABLES**

Millgrove Township	(Douglas Bennett) (Oliver Miller)
Jamestown Township	(Moses Hastings) (Samuel Chadwick)
Fremont Township	(Phillip Michael) (O. N. Caswell)
Clear Lake Township	(J. E. McElhenie) (Henry A. Lords)
York Township	(Sheldon Daniels) (S. M. Laine)
Scott Township	(D. B. Allen) (A. W. Russell)
Pleasant Township	(Leopold Weicht) (N. W. Griswold)
Jackson Township	(S. H. Collins) (Eli Junk)
Salem Township	(D. W. VanPelt) (M. Bowerman)
Steuben Township	(S. B. George) (Miles Gilbert)
Otsego Township	(George D. Williams) (Andrew Croy)
Richland Township	(James Carlin) (David Scoville)

**October Election—1861****JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Jamestown Township	Martin Stodard
Pleasant Township	Jesse Squire

**April Election—1862****TRUSTEES**

Millgrove Township	S. C. Sabin
Jamestown Township	Elias Cospers
Fremont Township	Daniel Schaeffer
Clear Lake Township	Ben McClouth
York Township	J. O. Rose
Scott Township	Ziba Jones
Pleasant Township	W. I. Howard
Jackson Township	Jeremiah Brown
Salem Township	A. G. Parsell
Steuben Township	True W. Meserva
Otsego Township	A. J. Corbin
Richland Township	R. V. Carlin

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Jamestown Township	C. D. Chadwick
Clear Lake Township	George Soule
York Township	Gain Burk
Pleasant Township	F. B. Dawson

**CONSTABLES (two receiving the highest vote given, number elected not specified)**

Millgrove Township	(W. S. McGowan) (George Rupley)
Jamestown Township	(George Osborn) (Levi Cospers)
Fremont Township	(Melvin Tillotson) (Joshua Caswell)
Clear Lake Township	(Geo. B. Soule) (E. H. Brown)
York Township	(Park Hathaway) (Henry Brooks)
Scott Township	(A. W. Russell) (Geo. Klock)
Pleasant Township	(N. W. Griswold) (Leopold Weicht)
Jackson Township	(David Morgan) (S. W. Collins)
Salem Township	(D. W. VanPelt) (Uriah Kirkendall)
Steuben Township	(S. B. George, Sr.) (S. B. George, Jr.)
Otsego Township	(George D. Williams) (Uriah Provance)
Richland Township	(John Waller) (Wm. Waller)

**October Election—1862****ASSESSORS**

Millgrove Township	E. Fuller
Jamestown Township	F. F. Burdick
Fremont Township	W. L. Scott
Clear Lake Township	Wilson Teeters
York Township	T. J. Warner
Scott Township	John Dygert
Pleasant Township	O. A. Scott
Jackson Township	N. A. Wilson
Salem Township	Daniel Shick
Steuben Township	G. I. Albey
Otsego Township	John D. Rowley
Richland Township	William L. Cary

**April Election—1863****TRUSTEES**

Millgrove Township	S. C. Sabin
Jamestown Township	Elias Cospers
Fremont Township	Daniel Schaeffer
Clear Lake Township	Washington Newell
York Township	H. P. Hathaway
Scott Township	Job Griffith

Pleasant Township	A. W. Hendry
Jackson Township	Philo Clark
Salem Township	A. G. Parsell
Steuben Township	True Meserva
Otsego Township	Harlo J. Carpenter
Richland Township	John Holt

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township	E. P. McAllister
Fremont Township	Joseph Hall
Clear Lake Township	Alvin Patterson
Scott Township	Nathaniel Tuttle
Jackson Township	Porter Gleason
Steuben Township	John Bevington
Otsego Township	Asa Little
Richland Township	Marvin B. Gordon

**CONSTABLES** (two receiving the highest number of votes given, number elected not specified)

Millgrove Township	(James Loghey) (Alonzo Smith)
Jamestown Township	(C. N. Wilder) (Joshua Osborn)
Fremont Township	(Melvin Tillotson) (Irus W. Badger)
Clear Lake Township	(Geo. B. Soule) (C. Huffman)
York Township	(Samuel B. Nelson) (Parkhurst Hathaway)
Scott Township	(John McMillen) (G. A. Klock)
Pleasant Township	(Nathaniel Griswold) (Thomas Schuray)
Jackson Township	(David Morgan) (H. J. Twitchell)
Salem Township	(B. H. VanPelt) (O. B. Story)
Steuben Township	(Lemon Tuttle) (George Woodworth)
Otsego Township	(Geo. N. Carpenter) (Nathan Stoner)
Richland Township	(Charles Hyler) (John Waller)

**October Election—1863****JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Salem Township	William Meek
Otsego Township	J. J. Hoopengartner

**April Election—1864****TRUSTEES**

Millgrove Township	Stephen Sabin
Jamestown Township	Ezekiel Brown
Fremont Township	David Schaeffer

Clear Lake Township	Washington Newell
York Township	Henry P. Hathaway
Scott Township	Ziba Jones
Pleasant Township	A. W. Hendry
Jackson Township	Daniel McGale
Salem Township	Aaron G. Parsell
Steuben Township	True N. Meserva
Otsego Township	A. G. Corbin
Richland Township	John Holt

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township	Amos Bachelor
Jamestown Township	Cephas McCullen
Fremont Township	Melvin Tillotson
Clear Lake Township	Cyrus Handy
York Township	(Joseph W. Thomas) (William Weit)
Pleasant Township	(Harvey W. Fanning) (Lewis E. Carver)
Richland Township	John Cameron

**CONSTABLES** (number elected not specified, two high given)

Millgrove Township	(James Lorhey) (Alonzo Burlingame)
Jamestown Township	(James Baker) (L. T. Lincoln)
Fremont Township	(L. G. Olmstead) (R. I. Duguid)
Clear Lake Township	(Geo. B. Soule) (Martin Smith)
York Township	(S. B. Nelson) (J. O. Rose)
Scott Township	(Harvey Wheaton) (David Hutchins)
Pleasant Township	(L. L. Black) (Nahum Cobb)
Jackson Township	(Horace E. Davis) (David Morgan)
Salem Township	(W. J. Shero) (Michael Bowerman)
Steuben Township	(George Morley) (Lemon Tuttle)
Otsego Township	(Geo. D. Williams) (E. A. Woodford)
Richland Township	(W. Hand) (J. Carlin)

**October Election—1864****ASSESSORS**

Millgrove Township	Elisha Fuller
Jamestown Township	C. M. Wilder
Fremont Township	G. W. Critchfield
Clear Lake Township	M. B. Potter

York Township	D. C. Hansleman
Scott Township	John R. Folck
Pleasant Township	O. A. Crockett
Jackson Township	H. E. Davis
Salem Township	David Gillespie
Steuben Township	Giles P. Abley.
Otsego Township	G. D. Williams
Richland Township	Wm. Cary

Salem Township	(E. Cox)
	(S. Beck)
Steuben Township	(Dorman Carpenter)
	(James Hagenbaugh)
Otsego Township	(Geo. D. Williams)
	(Wm. Mills)
Richland Township	(James Carlin)
	(Samuel Maxwell)

**April Election—1865****TRUSTEES**

Millgrove Township	H. H. Goldsmith
Jamestown Township	E. Brown
Fremont Township	Daniel Schaeffer
Clear Lake Township	A. F. Throop
York Township	Jacob O. Rose
Scott Township	John N. Hardy
Pleasant Township	A. W. Hendry
Jackson Township	John Hastings
Salem Township	A. G. Parsell
Steuben Township	Dorman Carpenter
Otsego Township	A. J. Corbin
Richland Township	John Holt

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township	Gardner Black
Jamestown Township	James Hall
Fremont Township	B. F. Wade
Clear Lake Township	Whitman Rathburn
Scott Township	(Nelson Hutchins)
	(S. R. Woodworth)
Pleasant Township	Israel Kemery
Jackson Township	David Hughes
Steuben Township	True W. Meserva
Otsego Township	Wm. R. Ingalls.

**CONSTABLES (number elected not specified, two receiving the highest vote given)**

Millgrove Township	(R. V. Shumway)
	(F. V. Shumway)
Jamestown Township	(J. H. Wilder)
	(T. C. Terry)
Fremont Township	(Nathan G. Olmstead)
	(R. J. Duguid)
Clear Lake Township	(G. B. Sowle)
	(J. W. Sheets)
York Township	(G. Stevens)
	(Jackson Algire)
Scott Township	(David Hutchins)
	(John McMillen)
Pleasant Township	C. A. Morse
Jackson Township	(Alphois Wells)
	(B. F. Stantin)

**October Election—1865****JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Salem Township	John Bodley
Otsego Township	John Brown

**ASSESSORS**

Steuben Township	Jacob Mountz
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**April Election—1866****TRUSTEES**

Millgrove Township	H. N. Goldsmith
Jamestown Township	C. D. Chadwick
Scott Township	Alexander Moore
Salem Township	H. P. Butler

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township	William Dixon
Jamestown Township	E. Brown
Fremont Township	David Schaeffer
Clear Lake Township	A. J. Teeters
York Township	G. B. Hubbell
Scott Township	Ziba Jones
Otsego Township	Ora Reizie
Richland Township	John W. Thomas

**CONSTABLES (number elected not specified, two highest listed)**

Millgrove Township	(R. U. Shumway)
	(James Laghry)
Jamestown Township	(F. C. Terry)
	(E. Dewey)
Fremont Township	(N. G. Olmstead)
	(Samuel Wade)
Clear Lake Township	(H. Brooks)
	(John Maye)
York Township	(Samuel Kelsoe)
	(Jeremiah Dellingham)
Scott Township	(Stephan Weik)
	(John Hutchins)
Pleasant Township	(W. Palfreyman)
	(L. L. Black)
Salem Township	(Michael Bowerman)
	(D. W. VanPelt)
Steuben Township	(George Scott)
	(Edward Smith)



Otsego Township	(David Bender) (Amos Vaughn)
Richland Township	(John Hall) (William Waller)

**October Election—1866****ASSESSORS**

Millgrove Township	Walter Scott
Jamestown Township	Amos H. Corey
Fremont Township	Joshua Michael
Clear Lake Township	D. B. Teeters
York Township	D. C. Hansleman
Scott Township	Michael Cline
Pleasant Township	Oliver A. Crockett
Jackson Township	H. E. Davis
Salem Township	W. B. Carpenter
Steuben Township	Hanibal Scovell
Otsego Township	Lewis Griffith
Richland Township	Ebenezar Hoadley
There were no Township Elections of record in 1867	

**April Election—1868****TRUSTEES**

Millgrove Township	Stephen Sabin
Jamestown Township	Elias Mallory
Fremont Township	Emery G. Melendy
Clear Lake Township	Andrew I. Teeters
York Township	David C. Hansleman
Pleasant Township	W. J. Hearoaid
Jackson Township	Myron F. Geddings
Salem Township	John Dole
Steuben Township	Middleton Perfect
Otsego Township	Robert Humphreys
Richland Township	J. Wesley Thomas

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Jamestown Township	Thompson C. Terry
Fremont Township	(Joseph H. Hale) (Cyrus Handy)
York Township	(Joseph W. Thomas) (Henry P. Hathaway)
Pleasant Township	(David H. Stocker) (William Lynn)
Otsego Township	Denias I. Jackman
Richland Township	(J. Wesley Thomas) (Barnabas Allman)

**CONSTABLES**

Millgrove Township	(Oliver Ellstin) (Elisha Fuller)
Jamestown Township	(Francis M. Grun) (J. J. Brown) (Henry Webb)

Fremont Township	(Henry E. Whaley) (Oliver Dodge) (G. A. Duguid)
Clear Lake Township	(Martin H. Smith) (John Teeters)
York Township	(William Peat) (I. P. Handy)
Scott Township	John Badger
Pleasant Township	(Lockwood L. Black) (Robert Legg) (John Richardson)
Jackson Township	(Amos Fanning) (W. S. Huffman)
Salem Township	(David VanPelt) (Leonard McClain)
Steuben Township	(Robert Morse) (Henry Crampton)
Otsego Township	(Walter Vaughn) (Frank Fenley) (Jesse H. Carpenter)
Richland Township	(George Heller) (Theodore Sargent)

There is no record of any Township Elections  
between the April Election of 1868 and the  
October Election of 1876.

**October Election—1876****JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township	John M. McKinlay
Jamestown Township	Eben McAllister
Fremont Township	(John J. Bevier) (Cyrus Handy)
Clear Lake Township	(Lewis L. Young)
York Township	(Harvey D. Ellis) (James Hight)
Scott Township	(Nelson Hutchins) (Harvey Harmon) (William S. Covell)
Pleasant Township	Peter Bowman
Jackson Township	(Lucius Hall) (Martin Mallory)
Salem Township	Joseph C. Mead
Steuben Township	Myron Tuttle
Otsego Township	(John Bevington) (Albert Morley) (David N. E. Brown)
Richland Township	Lyman A. Hix

**April Election—1878****TRUSTEES**

Millgrove Township	Irenus McGowan
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**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township	Robert N. Purdy
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## ASSESSORS

Millgrove Township Elisha Fuller

## CONSTABLES

Millgrove Township (William Green)  
(Frank Parker)

## TRUSTEES

Jamestown Township E. Brown

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jamestown Township Joel S. Shutts

## ASSESSORS

Jamestown Township Ira Reed

## CONSTABLES

Jamestown Township (J. H. Wilder)  
(Levi Clark)  
(Samuel P. Casebeer)

## TRUSTEES

Fremont Township Erastus Farnham

## ASSESSORS

Fremont Township Adam Stroh

## CONSTABLES

Fremont Township (Wm. VanAlstine)  
(John Gore)  
(George Whorton)

## TRUSTEES

Clear Lake Township D. B. Teeters

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Clear Lake Township V. W. Rathburn

## ASSESSORS

Clear Lake Township Andrew J. Smith

## CONSTABLES

Clear Lake Township (J. E. McElhenie)  
(Jerry Shatto)

## TRUSTEES

York Township Myron Powers

## ASSESSORS

York Township S. M. LaRue

## CONSTABLES

York Township (John F. Musser)  
(John Hemry)

## TRUSTEES

Scott Township D. Orewiler

## ASSESSORS

Scott Township Ellis Lee

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Scott Township Harlo B. Holdridge

## CONSTABLES

Scott Township (Jno. Kissinger)  
(Wm. Panabaker)  
(Cyrenus Sutton)

## TRUSTEES

Pleasant Township Charles Bachelor

## ASSESSORS

Pleasant Township W. H. Twitchell

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Pleasant Township Edson J. Fitch

## CONSTABLES

Pleasant Township (Alva Carpenter)  
(Jno. Peters)  
(Jno. Carson)

## TRUSTEES

Jackson Township James Mann

## ASSESSORS

Jackson Township John Howard

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jackson Township John A. Osterhout

## CONSTABLES

Jackson Township (A. F. Fanning)  
(John Slick)

## TRUSTEES

Salem Township Wm. A. Greenameyer

## ASSESSORS

Salem Township Alfred DeWitt

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Salem Township Amasa S. Ellithorp

## CONSTABLES

Salem Township (Otis VanPelt)  
(Ira Alleston)

## TRUSTEES

Steuben Township George E. Young

## ASSESSORS

Steuben Township Nathan Lacey

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Steuben Township Joseph Ketchum

## CONSTABLES

Steuben Township (George Murray)  
(G. L. Batchler)

## TRUSTEES

Otsego Township Clay Lemon

## ASSESSORS

Otsego Township D. K. Swift

## CONSTABLES

Otsego Township (John Griffith)  
(Wm. Powell)  
(Ira Emerson)

## TRUSTEES

Richland Township Allen Fast

## ASSESSORS

Richland Township E. Hoadley

## CONSTABLES

Richland Township (Thomas Chase)  
(Geo. W. Reese)

**April Election—1880****TRUSTEES**

Millgrove Township D. H. Roberts

**ASSESSORS**

Millgrove Township Amos Bachelor

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Millgrove Township Gardner Black

**CONSTABLES**

Millgrove Township (C. H. Wilder)  
(D. S. Schneider)

**TRUSTEES**

Jamestown Township Henry C. Miller

**ASSESSORS**

Jamestown Township Joshua Weyburn

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Jamestown Township (Thompson C. Terry)  
(Chas. W. Gray)

**CONSTABLES**

Jamestown Township (Thomas Hall)  
(Isaac Eckert)  
(Joseph Wilder)

**TRUSTEES**

Fremont Township Erastus Farnham

**ASSESSORS**

Fremont Township Adam Stroh

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Fremont Township (F. W. Robinson)  
(Elias Straw)  
(J. K. Howell)

**CONSTABLES**

Fremont Township (John H. Gore)  
(Elan Chapin)  
(J. E. McElhenie)

**TRUSTEES**

Clear Lake Township David B. Teeters

**ASSESSORS**

Clear Lake Township William Lords

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Clear Lake Township Henry Bennett

**CONSTABLES**

Clear Lake Township (Daniel Haines)  
(Thomas Painter)

**TRUSTEES**

York Township William Wicuff

**ASSESSORS**

York Township S. Larne

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

York Township (John Musser)  
(Larry Gundrum)

**CONSTABLES**

York Township (Joseph McGrew)  
(Wm. Davis)

**TRUSTEES**

Scott Township David Orewiler

**ASSESSORS**

Scott Township Albert Ewing

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Scott Township (Lyman G. Covell)  
(Nelson Hutchins)

**CONSTABLES**

Scott Township (James Ryan)  
(Curtis Cassel)

**TRUSTEES**

Pleasant Township Charles Bachelor

**ASSESSORS**

Pleasant Township O. A. Crockett

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Pleasant Township (Benjamin F. Dawson)  
(William W. Squier)  
(John Morrow)

**CONSTABLES**

Pleasant Township (John Peters)  
(David Scovell)  
(John Carson)

**TRUSTEES**

Jackson Township Chas. C. Brown

**ASSESSORS**

Jackson Township E. H. Wilson

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Jackson Township L. W. Hall

**CONSTABLES**

Jackson Township (John Haines)  
(Wm. J. Hoffman)  
(David Benninghoff)

**TRUSTEES**

Salem Township Charles Brown

**ASSESSORS**

Salem Township Charles Clink

**JUSTICE OF PEACE**

Salem Township Leander Brugh

**CONSTABLES**

Salem Township (E. Gunsaulus)  
(O. P. Snare)  
(James P. Butler)

**TRUSTEES**

Steuben Township R. L. Perfect

**ASSESSORS**

Steuben Township George E. Young



## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Steuben Township (James Ketchum)  
(James P. Dodge)

## CONSTABLES

Steuben Township (I. D. Smith)  
(Henry Wilcox)  
(Barney Brown)

## TRUSTEES

Otsego Township George Walberry

## ASSESSORS

Otsego Township Lewis Griffith

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Otsego Township (Samuel Porter)  
(D. N. E. Brown)  
(Clay Lemon)

## CONSTABLES

Otsego Township (Anthony Miller)  
(John Porter)  
(Robert Chard)

## TRUSTEES

Richland Township Allen Fast

## ASSESSORS

Richland Township E. Hoadley

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Richland Township (Barnabas Allman)  
(Henry Aldrich)

## CONSTABLES

Richland Township (Benjamin McGrew)  
(Amos Vaughn)

**April Election 1882**

## TRUSTEES

Millgrove Township W. S. Thompson

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Millgrove Township Elisha Fuller

## ASSESSORS

Millgrove Township Chester D. Saulsbury

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Millgrove Township Grove Dudley

## CONSTABLES

Millgrove Township (Charles Rowley)  
(Charles H. Wilder)  
(Adam Cox)

## TRUSTEES

Jamestown Township H. C. Miller

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Jamestown Township Ambros Cory

## ASSESSORS

Jamestown Township W. A. Parish

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jamestown Township Sylvester McNett

## CONSTABLES

Jamestown Township (Thomas Holl)  
(E. B. Clock)  
(George Collar)

## TRUSTEE

Fremont Township Theodore B. McNabb

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Fremont Township Erastus Farnham

## ASSESSOR

Fremont Township Almaron R. Follett

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Fremont Township (D. J. Tillotson)  
(N. M. Howell)

## CONSTABLES

Fremont Township (John Gore)  
(Spencer Handy)

## TRUSTEE

Clear Lake Township Valentine W. Rathburn

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Clear Lake Township William L. Lords

## ASSESSOR

Clear Lake Township Sanfrancisco McElhenie

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Clear Lake Township (Geo. A. Smith)  
(Alvin Paterson)

## CONSTABLES

Clear Lake Township (Daniel H. Buck)  
(Thos. Painter)

## TRUSTEE

York Township M. F. Rose

## ASSESSOR

York Township T. J. Waddington

## SUPT. OF ROADS

York Township John Hemry

## TRUSTEE

Scott Township William Covell

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Scott Township James Day

## ASSESSOR

Scott Township N. J. Letts

## CONSTABLES

Scott Township (John Kissinger)  
(Joseph Hirsh)  
(Clark Woodworth)

## TRUSTEE

Pleasant Township Joseph Butler

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Pleasant Township	Charles Bachelor
-------------------	------------------

## ASSESSOR

Pleasant Township	Oliver A. Crockett
-------------------	--------------------

## CONSTABLES

Pleasant Township	(John Carson)
	(James Wood)
	(John Peters)
	(Frank S. Wells)

## TRUSTEE

Jackson Township	Wallace Clark
------------------	---------------

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Jackson Township	J. E. Benedict
------------------	----------------

## ASSESSOR

Jackson Township	George D. Cleveland
------------------	---------------------

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jackson Township	(J. N. Osterhout)
	(D. S. Hughes)

## CONSTABLES

Jackson Township	(Hiram Pendill)
	(H. B. Richard)

## TRUSTEE

Salem Township	Charles Brown
----------------	---------------

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Salem Township	Henry Wright
----------------	--------------

## ASSESSOR

Salem Township	Charles Clink
----------------	---------------

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Salem Township	(Amasa S. Ellisthorp)
	(Levi Bodley)

## CONSTABLES

Salem Township	(Alonzo Teeters)
	(Andrew Wolfe)

## TRUSTEE

Steuben Township	D. S. Gilbert
------------------	---------------

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Steuben Township	Asa Huffman
------------------	-------------

## ASSESSOR

Steuben Township	Marshall Dunlap
------------------	-----------------

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Steuben Township	(Hiram Oberlin)
	(Joseph Ketchum)

## CONSTABLES

Steuben Township	(Isaiah Smith)
	(Daniel Henning)

## TRUSTEE

Otsego Township	B. F. Griffith
-----------------	----------------

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Otsego Township	Elias Everett
-----------------	---------------

## ASSESSOR

Otsego Township	Davis Griffith
-----------------	----------------

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Otsego Township	Isaac Slaybaugh
-----------------	-----------------

## CONSTABLES

Otsego Township	(Jay Brooks)
	(Ora Swift)

## TRUSTEE

Richland Township	Albert Morley
-------------------	---------------

## SUPT. OF ROADS

Richland Township	Jacob Anspaugh
-------------------	----------------

## ASSESSOR

Richland Township	Andrew Croy
-------------------	-------------

## CONSTABLES

Richland Township	(Alonzo Williams)
	(Liberty Slade)

**April Election—1884**

## TRUSTEE

Millgrove Township	William S. Thompson
--------------------	---------------------

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Millgrove Township	(Daniel Dunham)
	(Romeo Rogers)

## CONSTABLES

Millgrove Township	(Oscar F. Underhill)
	(David Schneider)

## TRUSTEE

Jamestown Township	A. J. Wickman
--------------------	---------------

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jamestown Township	(Thompson C. Terry)
	(Charles W. Green)

## CONSTABLES

Jamestown Township	(G. W. Harding)
	(Joseph Wickman)

## TRUSTEE

Fremont Township	E. C. Shupp
------------------	-------------

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Fremont Township	(E. G. Melendy)
	(Elias Straw)
	(Spencer Handy)

## CONSTABLES

Fremont Township	(James Pettit)
	(William Harter)

## TRUSTEE

Clear Lake Township	Samuel Lash
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## CONSTABLES

Clear Lake Township	(James Shaw)
	(William Bloomer)

## TRUSTEE

York Township	Daniel P. Rummel
---------------	------------------

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

York Township (Burton Dunavan)  
(George W. Powers)

## CONSTABLES

York Township (Tracey Vaughn)  
(A. C. Demont)

## ASSESSOR

York Township William Ellis

## TRUSTEE

Scott Township William Covell

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Scott Township (Ben D. Harmon)  
(Nelson Hutchins)

## CONSTABLES

Scott Township (James Ryan)  
(Curtis Castell)

## TRUSTEE

Pleasant Township Orville Carver

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Pleasant Township (A. Judson Corbin)  
(William W. Squier)  
(John K. Morrow)

## CONSTABLES

Pleasant Township (John Carson)  
(David Scoville)  
(Evans Matthews)

## TRUSTEE

Jackson Township John Elliott

## CONSTABLES

Jackson Township (Orville Cumins)  
(Martin Mallory)

## TRUSTEE

Salem Township E. D. Gunsaulus

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Salem Township Alonzo Teeters

## CONSTABLES

Salem Township (Granville Elliott)  
(John Moore)

## TRUSTEE

Steuben Township David S. Gilbert

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Steuben Township Henry B. Dodge

## CONSTABLES

Steuben Township (Charles Miller)  
(David Henning)

## ASSESSOR

Steuben Township Chester V. Tuttle

## TRUSTEE

Otsego Township B. F. Griffith

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Otsego Township (George R. Farnham)  
(John Griffith)  
(John Bevington)

## CONSTABLES

Otsego Township (Henry S. Miller)  
(Amos Vaughn)

## TRUSTEE

Richland Township Albert Olmstead

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Richland Township Barnabas Allman

## CONSTABLES

Richland Township (John Porter)  
(Edward Ireland)

**April Election—1888**

## TRUSTEE

Millgrove Township W. W. Thompson

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Millgrove Township (Abram Jeffrey)  
(Daniel Dunham)

## CONSTABLES

Millgrove Township (Newton W. Newcomb)  
(William A. Shumway)

## TRUSTEE

Jamestown Township Wallace Clark

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jamestown Township (T. C. Terry)  
(Charles W. Gray)

## CONSTABLES

Jamestown Township (Edson Terril)  
(George Gould)

## TRUSTEE

Fremont Township Chauncey Young

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Fremont Township (George Handy)  
(Charles Hall)

## CONSTABLES

Fremont Township (William Harter)  
(James Pettit)

## TRUSTEE

Clear Lake Township Christopher Oberst

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Clear Lake Township (George A. Smith)  
(Robert McElroy)

## CONSTABLES

Clear Lake Township (George J. Jennings)  
(Charles D. Smith)

## TRUSTEE

York Township G. R. Powers



## JUSTICE OF PEACE

York Township (George W. Powers)  
(Marvin J. Hix)

## CONSTABLES

York Township (William Mengies)  
(E. Riley Porter)

## TRUSTEE

Scott Township J. Wesley Jones

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Scott Township (Sidney Young)  
(L. D. Harman)

## CONSTABLES

Scott Township (Clarence Wheaton)  
(Curtis Cassel)

## TRUSTEE

Pleasant Township Friend Wells

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Pleasant Township (William W. Squire)  
(Judson P. Borbin)  
(Theodore Miller)

## CONSTABLES

Pleasant Township (Charles Darrah)  
(John Carson)  
(John Griffin)

## TRUSTEE

Jackson Township Frank Alcott

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jackson Township (John Crandall)  
(Joseph Butler)

## CONSTABLES

Jackson Township (Levi Shotts)  
(Elmer Hughes)

## TRUSTEE

Salem Township David Haskins

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Salem Township (John Dole)  
(Alonzo Teeters)

## ASSESSOR

Salem Township John DeWitt

## CONSTABLES

Salem Township (Edward Fink)  
(John Tritch)  
(Otis VanPelt)

## TRUSTEE

Steuben Township Stephen H. Fuller

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Steuben Township (John Harpham)  
(Syrenus Shoemaker)

## CONSTABLES

Steuben Township (George Harpham)  
(John D. Connolly)

## TRUSTEE

Otsego Township James Watkins

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Otsego Township (John Bevington)  
(Timothy Haughey)  
(William Waller)

## CONSTABLES

Otsego Township (Emanuel Baker)  
(Joseph Dukes)  
(Jay Brooks)

## TRUSTEE

Richland Township Orson Parrot

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Richland Township (Barnabas Allman)  
(James Metzler)

## ASSESSOR

Richland Township Winfield Chandler

## CONSTABLES

Richland Township (Wilmer Sams)  
(John Porter)

**April Election—1890**

## TRUSTEE

Millgrove Township James F. Wallace

## ASSESSOR

Millgrove Township Andrew Pocock

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Millgrove Township (John G. Black)  
(Almanza M. Helme)

## CONSTABLES

Millgrove Township (William A. Shumway)  
(M. S. Conkey)

## TRUSTEE

Jamestown Township Francis J. Clark

## ASSESSOR

Jamestown Township Sylvester McNett

## JUSTICE OF PEACE

Jamestown (Joel E. Shutts)  
(Charles Cook)

## CONSTABLES

Jamestown Township (George Gould)  
(Alva Spangle)

## TRUSTEE

Fremont Township Chauncey Young

## ASSESSOR

Fremont Township Joshua Stephens

JUSTICE OF PEACE		ASSESSOR	
Fremont Township	(William Balch)	Jackson Township	George D. Cleveland
	(J. W. Bassett)	JUSTICE OF PEACE	
CONSTABLES		Jackson Township	(David S. Hughes)
Fremont Township	(James Pettit)		(Joseph Butler)
	(D. M. Leard)	CONSTABLES	
TRUSTEE		Jackson Township	(Elmer Hughes)
Clear Lake Township	David B. Teeters		(Levi Shotts)
ASSESSOR		TRUSTEE	
Clear Lake Township	Mortimer Lords	Salem Township	David Haskins
JUSTICE OF PEACE		ASSESSOR	
Clear Lake Township	(George A. Smith)	Salem Township	John DeWitt
	(Josiah Phillips)	JUSTICE OF PEACE	
CONSTABLES		Salem Township	(John B. Raub)
Clear Lake Township	(Mr. Patterson)		(Daniel Pray)
	(H. Jennings)	CONSTABLES	
TRUSTEE		Salem Township	(Otis VanPelt)
York Township	Henry Hauver		(John Harpster)
ASSESSOR		TRUSTEE	
York Township	John Deitrick	Steuben Township	Stephen H. Fuller
JUSTICE OF PEACE		ASSESSOR	
York Township	(G. W. Powers)	Steuben Township	Asa Huffman
	(Rob Clark)	JUSTICE OF PEACE	
CONSTABLES		Steuben Township	(John Harpham)
York Township	(Tracey Vaughn)		(Hezekiah Thomas)
	(William Mengus)	CONSTABLES	
TRUSTEE		Steuben Township	(Amos Wolf)
Scott Township	George Balding		(Edward Smith)
ASSESSOR		TRUSTEE	
Scott Township	Augustine Reppert	Otsego Township	Hiram Sweet
JUSTICE OF PEACE		ASSESSOR	
Scott Township	(Andrew J. Light)	Otsego Township	Lewis W. Griffith
	(W. W. Ellis)	JUSTICE OF PEACE	
CONSTABLES		Otsego Township	(John Bevington)
Scott Township	(Thomas Roberts)		(Jacob Rummel)
	(Clarence Wheaton)	CONSTABLES	
TRUSTEE		Otsego Township	(John F. Foster)
Pleasant Township	Robert M. Lutz		(Frank Haughey)
ASSESSOR		TRUSTEE	
Pleasant Township	W. Sylvenus Wells	Richland Township	O. F. Parrott
JUSTICE OF PEACE		ASSESSOR	
Pleasant Township	(A. Judson Corbin)	Richland Township	W. S. Chansler
	(William W. Squires)	JUSTICE OF PEACE	
	(Tracey Sowle)	Richland Township	(J. W. Goodale)
CONSTABLES			(A. Morley)
Pleasant Township	(David Hansleman)	CONSTABLES	
	(Benjamin McGrew)	Richland Township	(John Porter)
	(Charles Doirah)		(N. E. Caise)
TRUSTEE		Editor's Note:	
Jackson Township	John B. Richner	It is regrettable that there are no records avail-	
		able from the year of 1890 to 1946.	



## STEUBEN COUNTY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

	1946	1950	1954
Millgrove Township	A. B. Collins	Albert Graham	George Keeslar
Jamestown Township	Ralph Caswell	Robert Finicle	Robert Finicle
Fremont Township	Burl B. Baker	Burl B. Baker	Clarence Huss
York Township	J. H. Hornbrook	Robert Z. Gibbeny	Robert Z. Gibbeny
Clear Lake Township	Kenneth Gary	Keith Oberst	Keith Oberst
Scott Township	Shirley Beard	Dale Nedele	Dale Nedele
Pleasant Township	Leland Nedele	Leland Nedele	Donald L. Fulton
Jackson Township	Leonard German	Leonard German	Grover Castner
Salem Township	Ward F. Sparks	Donald J. Norman	Donald J. Norman
Steuben Township	Clarence Chrysler	Clarence Chrysler	Herman VanAuken
Otsego Township	Ford A. Kepler	Lawrence Crowl	Lawrence Crowl
Richland Township	Emery Buell	Carl McKinley	Carl McKinley



### Angola City Government and Officials

By John L. Estrich

Angola became a city of the Fifth Class in Indiana, on May 29, 1906, adopting the necessary legal steps in that year and electing Orville Carver as the first Mayor. Prior to that time it had been organized as a town, having been chartered as such in 1866. Early problems of the town were administered by a town board of five members titled Trustees. The problems handled by the town board were relatively simple, dealing with such matters as sidewalks, installation and repair of the town pump located on the square, restrictions on the keeping of live stock within the town limits, construction of hitching posts and racks, and others of comparable importance. In the later years of the town government installation of water service lines became an important matter, the general water system having been installed about 1893. Names of Town Trustees appearing on the early records include Samuel Miller, T. L. Gillis, A. K. Hammond, W. E. Moss, George McNeal, T. E. Purinton, Orville Goodale, J. W. McCrory, Peter Jacob, George W. Kemery, Daniel Shank, Frank Bassett, Fred Richardson, James Shaughness, Thomas Freeman, W. W. Wood, Frank Jackson, J. B. Hayward, W. H. Waller, M. C. Pollock, Claude Douglas, and Ashley Barron.

The most important problems the city government handles are those relating to Water Supply, Sewers and Sewage Disposal, Streets and Sidewalks, Health and Inspection, Police Protection, Streets, and Fire Protection.

#### Water Supply

The public water supply was first handled by a private firm, Croxton, Kinney and Pilliod. Their successors were the Fort Wayne Traction Company, the National Mill, Water and Light Company; the city took over the ownership and management in 1921. The system of water mains was extended from 1906 to 1912, the water plant rebuilt in 1922, and extensive additions to mains, and a 250,000 gallon elevated water storage tank added in 1949. When the city took over the system there were two small wells; there are now six wells up to ten inches in diameter with a daily pumping capacity of over two million gallons and 73,696 feet of mains. A water softener was first installed in 1939, and this was replaced by a softener of larger capacity in 1949. Carl Weiss was closely associated with the development of the water system; Thomas C. Musser has been plant superintendent since 1922.

#### Sewers and Sewage Disposal

The first sewers in Angola were installed in 1898 on Maumee and Broad Streets. A comprehensive engineering plan was adopted in 1900 and sewer lines were added to the original system from time to time, the main sewer line to the southeast having been constructed in 1909, and considerable extensions to the system being laid in 1914 and



in 1919. In 1933 a modern sewage disposal plant was constructed taking the place of an earlier plant which had been built in 1909. Extensive repairs were made on the 1933 plant in 1953.

### **Streets and Sidewalks**

The street paving program was begun in 1912, the first contract being for paving of the public square and West Maumee Street. Paving of East Maumee and North and South Wayne Streets followed within several years. In 1927 paving was extended to Gale, Gilmore, West and Martha Streets. In the meantime a program for the improvement of the secondary streets began with the installation of curb and gutter by the property owners followed by the laying of black top street on most of the secondary streets by 1953. The old wooden sidewalks of the nineties have been gradually replaced by modern concrete walks.

### **Health and Inspection**

The 1896 report of the Chairman of the Board of Health, Dr. T. B. Williams, indicates considerable concern over the general use of so-called septic tanks, often open holes in the ground, and recommends the fixing of more efficient standards for their construction. Sewer construction began two years later however and, as the system developed, solved the problem of the unsanitary condition created by the use of open drainage pits. Dr. Williams was succeeded by Dr. P. N. Sutherland as chairman of the Board of Health. One of the serious problems of his administration was the control of contagious diseases, small-pox especially being prevalent for several years. Dr. S. S. Frazier succeeded Dr. Sutherland, he was followed by Dr. W. H. Lane as Chairman of the Board; Dr. Donald Creel was associated with him as a member. In 1948 the city instituted an inspection service of farms supplying milk to Angola dairies leading to what is referred to as the "Grade A" Milk Program. Dr. R. J. Luse became the first inspector; he was succeeded by Ben H. James in 1949. In that year inspection was extended to restaurants and "Grade A" cards issued to those restaurants qualifying.

The collection of garbage by the city was initiated in 1931. It has been administered since that time by Paul Kratzer. During the entire period Mr. Kratzer has employed only three drivers, Charles Young, Herman Noragon, and William

Anthony. This service makes a substantial contribution to the health and well being of the people of Angola.

### **Police Department**

The Police Department had its beginning about the time Angola became a city with the appointment of Frank Wert as Night Police. He was succeeded in 1907 by J. D. Cassell who continued in the position until the early twenties. Cleo Gibson, Russell Eckert, and Pete Myers served for a time. Early officers, titled City Marshals, were employed for years, but they possessed little or no police power, their duties relating chiefly to street maintenance. The first was James P. Carr, and he was followed by Daniel Orewiler, George Pocock, Andrew J. ("Pint") Snyder, George Heller and George Oberholtzer. Cleo Gibson was the first of the City Marshals to receive police power. The expansion of the Department began under Theodore Hopkins, and continued under Paul Tague and Gerald C. Lett, as Chiefs. Members of the Department, in addition to Mr. Lett, are Richard L. Gorrell, Paul Bushard, and Fred Gorman. The Department is now provided with a patrol car, short wave radio, drunkometer, lie detector, and finger printing supplies.

### **Administrations**

Orville Carver 1906-1910. Councilmen: D. W. Ewers, Lafayette Fenstermaker, Orville Goodale, James Shaughness, Frank Gilmore, J. B. Hayward and W. H. Waller. Achievements: Pioneering as a City; extension of sewers and water lines.

Thomas Owens 1911-1913. Councilmen: Frank Thompson, E. M. Hetzler, C. C. Sherrard, Frank Dole, Fred Hubbell. Achievements: Beginning street paving; further extension sewer lines.

Thomas J. Creel 1914-1917. Councilmen: Mack Fisher, Fred Williamson, C. C. Sherrard, J. A. Martin, R. J. Carpenter. Achievements: Construction North Side Sewer, beginning ornamental street lighting, paving Maumee and N. Wayne Streets, organization of the Public Library.

E. M. Hetzler 1918-1921. Councilmen: George Kemery, Frank Dole, E. E. Spade, Fred Starr, S. C. Wolfe, S. C. Hammond, J. A. Martin, Fred Williamson. Achievements: Extension of sewer and water lines; acquisition of water utility.

Orville Stevens 1922-1930. Councilmen: Melvin

Kratz, Ross Miller, C. C. Sherrard, Frank Dole, C. C. Duckwall, Charles Burkhart, Edward Willis. Achievements: Installation of new street lighting; extension of street paving to Gale, Martha, Gilmore, Elizabeth, and West Streets.

William F. Shearer 1930-1937. Councilmen: S. F. Aldrich, B. B. Goodale, Ronald Owens, Burton Handy, Herman Kohl. Achievements: Installation of Sewage Disposal Plant; rebuilding of water plant.

Edward D. Willis 1938-1947. Councilmen: S. F. Aldrich, Herman Kohl, Ronald Owens, Burton Handy, B. B. Goodale, Glen S. Beatty, George Hendry, John Hostetler, Howard Parker, Frank Watkins. Achievements: New city building; widen-

ing main streets; additional garage space; International fire engine; two new wells; fire protection contract with Pleasant Township.

Glen S. Beatty 1948- . Councilmen: William Booth, Joe Weicht, Barton Arnold, R. C. Wilder, Ray Carver, Clyde Reese, Joe Douglas, William Goodwin, Lloyd Jacob, Chester Tuttle, Darrel D. Walter. Achievements: Extensive water plant improvements; repair sewage disposal plant; new fire engine; street signs; extension black top streets; Grade A inspection program.

City Clerks—Roy Hurst, 1906-1920; Fred Williamson, 1921-1925; Eugene A. Carver, 1926-1929; Henry S. Wolfe, 1930-1942; Claude A. Douglas, 1943-1948; John L. Estrich 1948- .



# Townships of Steuben County



## Millgrove Township

*By Mrs. Floy Van Fossen Heath*

Millgrove is the extreme northwest township in Steuben County. It is bounded on the north by the Michigan State line.

The area of the township is 14,440 acres or 22.56 square miles. The 1950 census population of Millgrove Township was 875 and of Orland 386.

Orland is the oldest town in Steuben County, but it was not incorporated until April 16, 1915.

The first entry of land in township was made by Garrett Van Antwerp, November 28, 1832. Cyrus Choate and Alexander Chapin both located land in the township in 1833, and then they returned to Vermont for their families.

In selecting a location the early settlers found that one attraction was Fawn River, which flows through the township, for they must have flour and lumber. At that time the only power was by water power. Timothy Kimball built the first grist mill in 1838, at first the grain had to be bolted by hand but after the first month a regular power bolting-machine was installed. The location of this old water-power grist mill is now the office and storage building of the Fawn River Hatchery. It is very fitting the name of "Mill Grove" was chosen for the township as the mill was all important and the settlement must have been an oak grove, for the Indians had kept the undergrowth burned each year.

A great attraction today is our lakes, most of these are now resorts and bring many vacationers each summer and many stay as permanent residents.

The old Vistula road crosses Millgrove from the east to west. This was once an Indian trail. Later it was called "Territorial Road" because it led to the territories of Indiana and Michigan. It is thought to be the oldest highway across Ohio, In-

diana and Illinois and was used as a military road by the troops in the early settlement of northern frontiers. It was in use nearly 75 years before our Federal constitution was adopted, and has existed under three flags.

In general the highway follows the course now known as highway No. 120. The road originally had a right of way of 100 feet width through its entire course—hence Orland's wide streets.

It is generally understood that Joseph Smith and his caravan of 200 Mormons passed over this road in 1834 on their migration westward, and a well known fact that New Englanders, principally from Vermont, followed this trail when they arrived and settled in Millgrove Township.

The following account was written by John W. Van Fossen and read at a family reunion. It was published by the Montpelier Enterprise in August 1905.

While he wrote of a section in northwestern Ohio, not far from the Indiana and Ohio line, we can feel confident conditions were much the same across the line in Steuben County and Millgrove Township. At that time it was an unbroken forest and hunting ground of the Potawatomi Indians, who followed the streams and lakes of northern Indiana. Can we imagine the canoes coming down Fawn River? (Crooked Creek, as they called it). If our streams could speak they could tell similar tales. Who is there to tell us of Millgrove's dense forest? We do know of the giant Burr Oaks, as several of these original Oaks are now landmarks in Millgrove.

Mr. Van Fossen was a resident of Indiana after 1891 and built the house now owned by C. D. Ernsberger in Orland.

He writes as follows: "Two brothers, Levi and William Van Fossen, took up government land when it was an unbroken forest inhabited by the Red man and every kind of wild animal native to these parts. Levi located two miles east of the St. Joe River and William 8 miles west. There was scarcely anything to show that a white man had ever trod upon it.

"He takes the young people on an imaginary trip from Levi's home to William's home that they



may compare the times of 1838-39 with those of 1905. But how are we to go, there are no railroads, no carriages or buggies in all this country—not even a road out, we might take an ox team and sled but it would not draw on dry leaves, we should take an ax along to cut our road much of the way—so it seems best to go on foot—only ten miles. Your grandfathers and grandmothers traveled this way.

“Well do I remember seeing my cousin Mary come around the swamp and up to our cabin. How glad we were to see her and how sorry that she must return the next day—but we must get back to our trip. We will start early in the morning so we will reach our destination by noon. It won’t take long to get ready, the girls will need only linsy-woolsey home made clothes. Many strange and beautiful things are on all sides. We see the grand old forest of giant oak, ash, poplar, walnut and others equal in strength and beauty. In this section were the largest deciduous trees found anywhere in the United States. We have gone two miles and here is the St. Joe River—walk carefully over the crude foot bridge across the main channel. Farther on some one has felled trees through the marshy bayous in such a way that we can walk the length of one and then step across to another until we reach dry land on the farther bank. Eagle Creek twists and turns across our way too, until we have to cross it four times on these fallen log bridges.

“There is a small clearing where a white man has built a cabin—there will only be three or four of these clearings in the entire ten miles. There are two Indians standing close by the trunk of a big tree with their guns by their sides. They will not harm us though they watch us silently until we say “How do you do?”—they then grunt “How.” A little farther on we come to an Indian Wigwam. The Squaw stands in front of it as though on guard while her papooses play around like kittens. She will not speak unless we speak to her first.

“See that drove of deer? How beautiful and graceful they are as they scurry off to some hiding place with their white tails raised like flags over their backs. We will see many similar droves along our way but keep your eyes open for there are coon, skunk and porcupine all through the forest. Though they run in the night mostly, we can often see them in the daylight in this new country where there is little for them to fear. It is

possible that we shall be close to wolves, bears, wild cats or lynx but they are hidden away in some of the swamps and will not be out until dark.

“But we are close to the end of our journey. Around this swamp and around the ridge is the cabin of William Van Fossen. We have been walking for nearly five hours, the sun is high overhead and we are hungry. Our hostess does not know we are coming so we shall have to be content with the every day fare of the time. What shall we have for dinner? After our greeting we will rest in the shade of this monstrous oak which stands about 30 feet from the cabin until we are called to dinner. It is probable we shall have corn bread, coffee, potatoes and some wild meat, venison most likely, or we may have chicken if the skunk, weasels or mink did not get to the chicken coop first. In the Fall we would have succotash, potatoes, roasting ears with corn bread. It is possible the corn would be grated from the cob to be made into corn bread or if the corn is hard it will be ground in the coffee mill. Our appetites are good and we will relish anything set before us. After we have had dinner it is too late to return to Levi’s cabin today, so we will have to stay over night.

“Those wildcats, wolves and bears will be out of their hiding places and will take over the forest through the night. But we shall be splendidly entertained, we will have a concert that will “beat the Band.” Along in the evening from some nearby spot, we shall hear the bark or yelp of a single wolf, this will be the prelude, he will be answered by another and then another until the concert will be taken up on all sides. Then the owls, the loud laughing “Who, Who” fellows will bring in their parts, there will be dozens of them in every direction. And then the bull frog, close by in the pond, will put in his bass “Ker-chug, Ker-chug.” I tell you it will be grand.

“I want to tell you of an incident that happened at William’s, my father’s cabin, late in the fall of 1839, if I remember correctly. It was a dark night and Father, Mother and three of us children were all in our cabin. There was a log fire burning which served the double purpose of heat and light—“Tige,” our big Newfoundland dog was lying on the floor. Suddenly he roused, stood up and listened, he commenced to growl and become excited. We all knew he sensed danger but did not know what it might be that he had heard outside, whether Indians or wild animals. We children clung to Mother and she comforted us, saying that

nothing could get into the cabin with "Tige" and Father to protect us. Father spoke to the dog, who began to bark and scratch at the door, but he hesitated to let him out. Would it be better to keep him inside to protect the cabin, or let him out to fight the intruder? But Tige was so determined to get out that Father opened the door. The dog went out with a rush and a roar like an outraged lion and the battle was on. How we children trembled as we heard the hoarse barking and growling of our beloved dog. And the fighting, yelping, and snapping of teeth of what sounded like a dozen to one. It was a long time until Tige came back to the door still barking and growling. Father let him in and the wolf pack left for some other part of the forest.

"Now I have told you something of the condition of this country in the time of your grandfathers and what they had to contend with. Yet, notwithstanding all this, I doubt whether you are more contented with your life today, than they were with theirs."

In the year 1848, two young men who were recent graduates from Medical college in Detroit, Michigan, started from Dearborn, Michigan, on horseback to find a location. They came into Orland (Millgrove at that time) and stopped over night at the Burnham Hotel. Next morning after looking the prospects over, one of them, Dr. Thomas B. Sloss said "here is where I locate." The other young man went on to Lexington (now Brighton)—Dr. Marsh.

Dr. Sloss remained here the rest of his life, and traveled all over Millgrove and as far as he could reach in early years by horseback. In 1852 he married Sarah J. Stone, widow of Sewel Stone, an early merchant in the village. After her death he lived at the Burnham Hotel. He died at the home of his nephew, John W. Van Fossen, near Orland April 7, 1899.

Dr. Sloss related this incident,—One time as he was returning from Fremont, as he came near the Dewey school house, a group of Indians were congregated. He stopped and found that one of the squaws had rebelled against carrying the load. After some discussion, as was the custom, the nearest of kin took her life. She was buried near this location. Soon after this, Dr. Sloss was called to the home of Lewis Barnard. When the name of this squaw was mentioned, Mrs. Barnard said,—"That is a nice name, I shall call my baby Keoka" so she was known as Keoka Barnard until she changed

it to Keoka Adams (Mrs. John Adams). Their daughter Mable now lives at Pomona, California.

### Honor Roll

When our country called, Millgrove responded with our loyal young men. In the first call for volunteers in the Civil War, 47 young men enlisted and no doubt many more later.

In the Spanish American War in 1898, Millgrove was represented by Corp. Don Stuck and Lewis Goodrich.

World War I—43 responded and all except four returned. Charles Lyons was killed at Verdun, France, on October 6, 1918. Charles lies in Arlington Cemetery. The other three died in camp.

World War II—86 names are on the Millgrove Honor Roll.

Korean War—A number of our young men have been called. There is no record at present.

Space will not permit mention of all the men and women who have made good in various professions who call Millgrove their home. Included in this list are:

Ministers—Somerville Light, Martin Canse, William Wariner, Harold Janes and John Burdette Charles.

Physicians—Walter Wallace, George Dando, Leon Jeffery, James Rowley, William Sloss Van Fossen, Marie Smith Roberts and Donald Brown, also Dr. Emmet Neihardt.

Dentists—Carl Jeffery and Leo Purdy.

Attorneys—Harry Kimball, United States Senator from Michigan, and Milo Thompson, Trustee of Millgrove from 1910-1918.

Teachers—Sarah Benedict, Mary Wilder Kimball, Maynard Dudley, Ross Wigent, and many others. Albert J. Collins was Superintendent of Millgrove school, first term of eight years, he taught elsewhere and returned for six years more. He was Trustee of Millgrove two terms of four years and was Clerk of Steuben County Courts. He retired to his farm in Millgrove, but died in 1954 as his biography in this history records.

Cornetist—Bert Brown was member of Pryor, Bachman, and Sousa Bands. He is an internationally known musician. He has now retired.

Recently the opinion has been expressed that there are no houses still standing in Steuben County that were built before 1860. Millgrove can claim the honor of several buildings that are still in good preservation and standing erect. These houses were no doubt built of native timbers and hand



hewn. Some of this lumber does not exist in this area now.

I shall name a few of the early homes—The large stone house on East Vistula road, now Indiana highway No. 120, on the north side of the road just east of the Fawn River bridge, was built by Dr. Shumway who came to Millgrove in 1838. This house was built soon after. S. C. Sabin was the Master builder and except for necessary repairs, it remains as constructed. It was built of heavy timber beams and masonry, its floors and finishing are of lumber of fine poplar and hardwood. It is now owned by Donald Bailey.

S. A. Parmenter built the first frame house in Millgrove Township in 1836, just east of the Shumway stone house and east of Fawn River. The timber was hewn by Leland Stocker, and the master builder was S. C. Sabin, whose wages were \$1.25 per day. This house is identified as the present home of Milton Seehawer. It has been kept in good repair, perhaps only the frame is the original.

The home once owned by Orland's first Post Master, Alexander Chapin, is the first residence east of business section on the south side of the street and later owned by Mr. and Mrs. Kendrick Wilder and is the present William J. Case residence. It bears this inscription etched on a small window pane at side of front door "A. A. Chapin, April 7, 1853."

### **The Orland Congregational Church**

This church was built in 1852 by volunteer labor, supervised by Timothy Kimball, and it was constructed by heavy hewed timbers. A basement was made under the original building in 1910. Even the strongest timbers must yield to the ravages of termites, which were found to have done great damage to the sills in 1949. This was restored and a firm foundation was made in 1950-1951. Most of the original timbers were retained. The exterior retains the original architecture of the early New England church and is known as a landmark in the community.

### **Underground Railroad**

In about 1900 in New York a history of the underground railroad was published. In this book a number of Millgrove residents were named as Conductors, who helped many persons, on account of their color, to escape through Millgrove to freedom and eventually to Canada.

The following Millgrove residents were included

in the list: Lewis Barnard, Capt. Barry, S. U. Clark, Allen Fox, Dennison Fox, Austin Fox, Russell Brown, Augustus Kimball, Nelson Newton, Samuel McGowen and Rev. E. R. Spears. These loyal men and no doubt their wives, deserve a well earned place in history. Maurice McClew has an exhaustive Report on the underground Railroad in this History.

A few of these homes are identified and except for necessary repairs are still in good preservation. Each had a secret place in cellar or attic, with a secret passageway, to conceal their guests until a call to the next station.

The Lewis Barnard home was no doubt the first station in Millgrove, located one and one-half miles southeast of Orland. It has been remodeled but the exterior remains as original. Present owner is Mrs. Helen Helme Healy.

The Nelson Newton home, located the second house west of the Masonic Building in Orland, was partly burned a few years ago—has been rebuilt and modernized, the original frame retained, however, and looks as it did in the pre-sixties. The Russel Brown house, corner of Barry and North Streets across from the M. E. Church, was a prominent station in the Underground Railroad. It has been modernized but the exterior is as the original. It is the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Twitchell. S. U. Clark built a large frame house on the east side of North Street. In planning this building he made provision to shelter his colored guests in this early home. The present owners are Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kain.

There are a number of other residences in this vicinity that bear the marks of architecture of pre-Civil War days.

### **Musical Talent**

Millgrove, including Orland, was noted for its musical talent.

On January 22, 1896, H. M. S. Pinafore was presented by local talent, at the I.O.O.F. Opera House in Orland, to a capacity house. By request, a re-appearance was given a few evenings later. Through the auspices of the Martha Society of the M. E. Church at Angola, the opera was again rendered at the Croxton Opera House in Angola to a crowded and appreciative audience. The cast of Pinafore was as follows:

First Lord of Admiralty	Frank Alcott
Captain Corcoran	W. J. Case
Ralph Rackstraw	Harry S. Van Etta



Dick Deadeye	Fred Frisbie
Bill Bobstay	Mac Light
Bob Becket	Maynard Dudley
Tom Tucker	Florence Parker
Boatswain	Will Van Fossen
Josephine	Nellie Wilder
Hebe	Florette Bonney
Little Buttercup	Julia Fox

And his sisters, and his cousins, and his aunts.

### Millgrove's Railroad

Residents of Millgrove had long awaited a commercial deliverer. Many times railroad prospects excited interest only to fail. Finally their hopes were realized in the coming of the St. Joseph Valley Line, an interurban from Elkhart, Indiana, to Columbia, Ohio, its destination planned to extend to Toledo, Ohio. Millgrove voted a subsidy of \$11,500, and the right-of-way through the farms, was donated.

It was a red letter day for Millgrove and residents of Orland when on September 26, 1905, the first dirt was turned on this Valley Line. A much greater day when the first train arrived at the station on May 4, 1907. The Orland depot is shown in the picture section of this History.

On May 6, 1907, the people of Millgrove and Orland put on a real celebration as the long looked for railroad was a reality. A program was given in the M. E. Church with many prominent people present. Professor Albert J. Collins gave the address of welcome—Quote,—“With one of the most enthusiastic addresses we have ever heard.” Response was given by Superintendent Luther Swinehart of the Valley Line. Other fine speeches were made by many interested people. A letter was read from Milton T. Rose, who could not be present. Mr. Rose's letter follows: “I write you that I may be represented by my best hat attached to a balloon and sent higher than ever a hat was sent before, and that my best old shoes be set beside the speakers who shall shout the loudest and with most jubilation of the day, and that the band be requested to play for Rose ‘Home Sweet Home’ with Valley Line supplement. And secure a strong boy with a sonorous voice to carry the flag and shout this sentiment,—

Orland, the Beautiful  
Her streets are broad and shady  
Her homes are clean and fine,  
She is today and will be  
Queen of the Valley Line.”

Alas! she served the community only eleven years. What a great convenience in traffic it was, and was considered the best shipping point in the county. With the passing of time and conditions, including World War I and the death of Mr. Bucklen, the promoter, the coming of automobiles and trucks that were taking the place of the interurbans; the heirs of Mr. Bucklen decided to dismantle the track and equipment in 1918.

Previous to the dismantling of the Valley Line, I am sorry to record a terrible wreck on January 2, 1917, at Inverness where Mrs. Waldo Miller and small daughter lost their lives, and 27 passengers were injured. Bessie Terry of Inverness died later of injuries received in this wreck.

Millgrove ranks high in her educational advantages, and has a fine consolidated school and a good library supported by Millgrove tax. The citizens dedicated an addition to the school building on April 15, 1939. Total cost \$42,000. About 400 persons attended the dedication.

### Joyce Library

On the afternoon and evening of March 24, 1903, occurred the formal opening and dedication of the Joyce Library, an honor to the giver and a blessing to the village and Millgrove Township.

The books were cataloged by Sarah Powell, a teacher in the High School, and Mary Wilder Kimball was the first librarian. For many years Bertha Wilder Crandall was the faithful librarian. At present Bertice Brown claims that honor. This library is supported partly by Millgrove tax and income from a business building donated by William Joyce.

Articles of Association were formulated—in part: Whereas William S. Joyce, our esteemed fellow citizen, has expressed a desire to be helpful to his old friends and neighbors in the vicinity of Orland generally, by establishing and providing for the maintenance of a public library, now, therefore, we the resident citizens of Millgrove Township in Steuben County, State of Indiana, do organize ourselves into a Public Library Association. The first members of the Association were: Milton Rose, Chairman; Harriett Wilder, John Parker, Julia Wilder, Weltha Jeffry, Frank Salisbury and Smith Van Etta.

### Millgrove's First Cyclone

(so far as recorded)

On Sunday, March 28, 1920, about five P. M., a cyclone hit the north side of Millgrove Township

wrecking the Moffett house and doing much damage to other buildings in Orland. Going on it struck at the farm of Guy Friend, northeast of Orland, leveling all his farm buildings to the ground. It turned the large farm house on its foundation, uprooted large trees, tore a large porch from the house, wrecked barns, and the hay and other contents of buildings were scattered over the fields. The next day friends and neighbors came, some collected hay from the fields and brought it to location, carpenters collected timbers and rebuilt barns around the hay. The women furnished the dinner for the workers. The house was turned in such a manner it was impossible to get to the basement. After this destruction the storm went on, and wrecked the tenant house in the Emery Luce farm. Mr. Doudt, the tenant, was killed.

#### **Fawn River Hatchery**

This Hatchery was dedicated June 15, 1952. It is located one half mile north of Orland, in the northwestern part of Steuben County, Millgrove township. This hatchery is located on the site of the old Orland Grist Mill and a part of the old Mill Dam was rebuilt to provide water for the hatchery. This area has an interesting historic background and is now a State Fish Hatchery.

The present bridge, east of Orland, across Fawn River was opened for traffic on May 24, 1940.

#### **Centennial**

August 24, 1934, was a big day for Millgrove and Orland when a crowd of former friends and schoolmates assembled on the school grounds in an all day celebration commemorating the 100 years of the early settlement. A special feature of the day was a log cabin at the front entrance where the guests registered and a booklet with the history was available.

At noon the "Old Christian Schneider" bell was rung. Soon after noon, coming from the north, was an ox team with some Vermonters in a "schooner" wagon. When identified they proved to be Mr. and Mrs. David Rothen, Freman Wigent, some children and the driver of the oxen.

A worthwhile exhibit of antiques was on display in the High School rooms and a fine cafeteria dinner was served in the school dining room.

There was a program in the afternoon and a pageant in the evening portraying early incidents. A band concert finished a big day.

It was estimated 1500 or 2000 people enjoyed this

centennial celebration. Many persons came from a long distance to attend.

The committee in charge was: Floy Heath, chairman; Mildred Fuller, Allie Van Fossen and Lettie Squires.

#### **Historic Bell**

The Christian Schneider bell is a relic of early Orland, and is of unusual tone being made of Bell metal and could be heard from quite a distance. This bell is now in the lobby of the Joyce Library preserved for future generations.

About 1900 Rev. U. A. Foster wrote these verses.

#### **The Town With a Bell**

There's something about this town  
I most desire to tell  
Is of the Christian Schneider man  
Who rings his little bell.

He has a bell upon his house  
And no odds what's the weather  
He rings his bell at six o'clock  
So folks can rise together.

Forty years or more, they say  
He'd ring his little bell  
At morning, noon, and night again,  
No matter sick or well.

A reunion of former students of "Northeastern Indiana Literary Institute" was organized in Millgrove Township, in 1850.

The gathering was called to order by Professor Burrier, Principal of the Institute. W. P. Aylsworth of Angola offered the prayer and Professor Burrier gave the address of welcome. The choir was led by First Principal Samuel Harper of Adrian, Michigan. Those who took part in the program were as follows: Dr. Marden Sabin, Centerville, Michigan, A. A. Luce, William M. Brown, Principal of Waterloo Schools, Andrew J. McGowan, Michigan University, Oscar Sabin, Chicago, Illinois, Jonas H. McGowan, Coldwater, Michigan, Professor Rufus Patch, Ontario Institute, E. T. Cosper of Lima, J. R. Williams, Abel Bennet, Harriet Luce Wilder and Eliza Ellen Taylor. All contributed.

Tributes were given to Captain Samuel Barry, the founder and donor of land and two-thirds of building costs; also, to many of the teachers of the school. Regrets were read from Fred Chapin, To-



ledo, Ohio, E. E. Brown, Lincoln, Nebraska, Putnam Newton, Clinton, Massachusetts, and T. Y. Dickinson of Washington.

This Institute flourished until the Civil War, when three of the teachers and many of the eligible young men entered the conflict.

In 1879 the Trustees of the Institute deeded to Millgrove Township their interest in the old Seminary.

The only student now known in Millgrove Township who attended this Institute is Howard Purdy of Orland.



### Jamestown Township

*By Mrs. Ralph Newnam*

Out of a wilderness came our beloved Steuben County. Out of a territory of hardship and dangers, lakes and fertile land, beauty and blessings, a brave people made a home.

In 1831 Steuben County was surveyed into Townships and then into sections. Jamestown Township is located in the center of the upper row of townships, being bounded on the east by Fremont Township, on the north by Branch County, Michigan, on the west by Millgrove Township, and on the south by Pleasant Township. Jamestown Township is six miles from east to west and four miles from north to south, containing twenty-four square miles. Many beautiful lakes lie within its boundaries, including Lake George, Hog Lake, Lake Pleasant, Upper and Lower Otter Lakes, Green's Lake, Failing Lake, Marsh Lake, Mud Lake, Walters Lake, Snow Lake, and part of Lake James.

In 1834, G. W. Collins, a farmer from Vermont, settled in section 20, and in 1835 Dennis Depue, John Depue, and John Wilkins arrived in the township. The first entry of land in the township was made May 10, 1835, by Albert Ansley. The second entry was made May 19, 1835, by Elon Elmore, the third entry by George Harding June 27, 1835, and the fourth by Barton Collins July 3, 1835.

Barton Collins built the first house, and Thomas

Knott the second house in the township. Mr. Collins came west from Rhode Island with his wife, six daughters, and three sons. He sent his possessions by water to Detroit, Michigan, and they drove a team, traveling on the road three weeks.

In building his home, Mr. Collins cut the logs, and men from Vermont Settlement, now Orland, came to help erect the cabin. Shakes were split for the roof but they soon dried out and rolled up so that stars at night could be seen through the roof. Rain and snow could not be kept out. A few boards were laid down to sleep upon, and a quilt was hung up for a door. A piece of oilcloth covered the windows, and wolves howled about at night. Great care had to be taken so that the fire did not go out, as matches were unknown and there were no near neighbors from whom to borrow. Food was very scarce as not much land had been cleared. It was necessary to share the little food they had with the Indians to keep them on friendly terms.

At that time Coldwater, Michigan, consisted of only one log house, and Bronson, Michigan, was only two log cabins joined together, which served as a hotel.

The price of land was set by the Government at \$1.25 per acre.

During the winter John Knott built a sawmill on the creek or outlet of Lake George and, soon after, a gristmill. Then Mr. Collins laid a floor, and had a door and window made for his cabin.

The first post office was known as Crooked Creek. There has been some dispute as to who was the first postmaster, but the postoffice department at Washington, D. C., gives honors to Thomas Knott. William A. Bliss was also postmaster at one time. Mail was carried on horseback once a week between Van Buren in LaGrange County, and Toledo, Ohio. No doubt the Indian trail, later known as the Vistula Road, was used for this purpose. This trail was later made into a corduroy road, then gravel, and finally a part of it is now blacktop road known as state road 120. Many Indian relics have been found in this vicinity, and are on display at Pokagon State Park.

Others who came into the township prior to 1840 were E. Leland, John Archer, Henry Burdick, S. Chase, Jacob Mallory, Clayton Mallory, Elias Mallory, Asa Mallory, Cephas McCuller, L. B. Eaton, William Martin, R. Gaines, J. Burdick, Joseph Tousley, Henry Snow, R. Stiles, Thomas Failing, John Green, Theron Storrs, and Chester D. Salisbury.



The first school in the township was taught by Fidelia Tillotson, and was held at Ezekiel Brown's place. Religious meetings were held in homes, and people came for thirty miles to quarterly meeting. Later a church was built in the village of Jamestown, and one at Nevada Mills. (See chapter on churches for details.)

The first blacksmith was Mr. Joseph Tousley, John Knott built the first frame house, and Dennis Depue made the first garden.

The first white child born in the township was Catherine Depue, but the first couple married is uncertain. It was either Martin Tillotson and Minerva Mallory, or Chester D. Salisbury and Julia Collins.

Previous records call our attention to the weather of June 19, 1836, when the ground froze and killed the corn and potatoes.

In April 1853, the present village was laid out by Simeon Gilbert and Joseph Hutchinson, and named Eagleville, then changed to Jamestown, but the post office remained Crooked Creek because of another Jamestown in the state. That year there was a bank with John Dutton as cashier. "Lant" Carpenter kept a store. The first regular physician was Dr. Waterhouse, although John Wilkinson dispensed roots and herbs prior to the establishment of Dr. Waterhouse. Mr. Wilkinson was also a preacher. George R. Hershey opened the first hotel, and the same year a stage line was established from Coldwater to Fort Wayne.

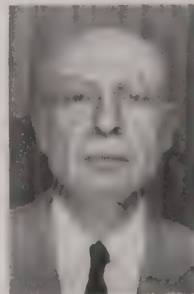
William Simmons was the first person interred in the Jamestown Cemetery on January 15, 1841. In the afternoon of the same day Diana Harding, wife of George Harding, was buried. Mrs. Charlotte Richfield was third, soon after.

No history of Jamestown Township would be complete without the story of one of the most notorious criminals in the Northwest. Silas Doty came to the township in 1839 and worked at breaking horses for other people. He began by stealing small tools. He was friendly and no one mistrusted him. He believed in taking from the rich and giving to the poor, and was always accommodating and industrious.

Lorenzo Noyes, of Michigan, a former neighbor and friend of Doty's, came to live with him. But he told everything he knew, and confided in the neighbors that Doty stole cattle in Michigan, butchered them, and sold them in Toledo. Noyes came up missing after telling he was going to Illi-

nois. Doty seemed to have most of his clothing, which he traded for other articles, claiming he had traded with Noyes. Finally Doty was caught in Michigan and sentenced to Jackson prison. About three years later William A. Bliss came to Jamestown and told Mr. Tillotson he had found a human skull. The two, with Dr. D. B. Griffin, went to a swamp near Doty's house and found all the bones of a man, who had died by violence. It was believed to be that of Noyes, and Doty was charged with murder. Upon his release from Jackson prison he was taken to Angola and sentenced to murder in the second degree, or State Prison for life. The court granted a new trial, and enroute to Fort Wayne for the hearing, Doty escaped. He was captured again at Brushy Prairie and taken to jail in Fort Wayne and then brought to Angola, where he escaped from jail. He went to Mexico and became groom for General Scott in the Mexican War. After the war was over he came home with a pair of nice ponies and plenty of money and bought forty acres of land. He guaranteed his neighbors that nothing would be stolen from anyone within twelve miles of his place, and kept his word. He was arrested by Michigan officers for stealing wheat and returned to Jackson prison. Released for good behaviour, he came home with good recommendations from prison officers. He was caught stealing a horse and returned to Jackson Prison. After being in and out of that prison several times, Doty, nearly eighty years old, died of pneumonia at the home of his son in Reading, Michigan.

Doty's parents and relatives were highly respectable and honest.



## Fremont Township

By Henry Wells

Fremont is Township 38 North, Range 14 East, of the 2nd P. M.; bounded on the north by Branch County, Michigan, east by Clear Lake Township, south by Scott Township and York Township, and on the West by Jamestown Township.

Its area, 4 miles north and south, 6 miles east and

west, comprises 1500 acres. At one time there were 600 acres of water (lakes) and at one time Cedar Lake was the largest body of water in the Township. This was drained several years ago, the water flowing south forming what now is called Pigeon Creek. Walters Lakes and Fish Lake are the largest now.

John McMahon, the first settler in Fremont Township, arrived in August of 1835. Demary Tillotson who followed by just two hours, was the second. Other early settlers were Peter Cluck, Jacob Roop, a Baptist minister named Truman Barrows, John Barnard, Elijah and Chester Salisbury, Avery and Erastus Farnham.

Settlers around 1840 were Daniel Caswell, Thomas N. Brown, Peter Wolf, James Duguid, Jacob Lockwood, Martin Tillotson, Henry Snow, John McClure, N. Ford, Charles Campbell, A. Campbell, Fred Bower, Horace Waite, William Campbell, Josiah Sabin, Dr. D. B. Griffin, James Winter, Doctor Reynolds, John Havens, S. Goodfellow, E. Masters, M. Terry, Rufus A. Beall, S. A. Steward, Peter Rowe, John Stewart, C. and L. VanHorn, M. Meade, M. Carpenter, Joseph Terry, Elias True, Silas Doty, James Critchfield, Enos Beall, and Alexander McNaughton. The latter platted the village of Ray in 1873.

Silas Doty, mentioned above, attained considerable notoriety as leader of a gang of horse thieves. One night after a successful thieving foray, he stopped at the home of one of the pioneer women of the settlement and ordered her to prepare supper for him. Her quick wit saved the day when she put a quantity of laudanum in his coffee and the drug caused him to pass out. His capture was effected and he served a term in jail. The story was published in a little brochure titled "A Woman's Wit."

The first frame school building was erected in Fremont Township in 1845 and was built by popular subscription. It cost \$1,500 and was replaced by another in 1856 at a cost of \$6,000. This building was destroyed by fire in 1877. In 1914 a new building was erected. Several additions over the past number of years, and a fine new gymnasium now make it one of the finer school plants in Steuben County.

Early residents have told of a bunch of "rough and ready" residents who came into the town of Fremont on Saturday nights and the many escapades they engaged in. One favorite form of "fun" was to place a washtub full of whisky on

the platform of the hotel building and insist that everyone who passed by take a "slug" from a tin-cup. If anyone refused he was held and forced to take a copious drink of the "firewater." This also led to considerable debauchery and trouble with Indians who lived in the township.

A visit to the cemeteries of the township reveals names of many of the pioneers above mentioned. The fact that the rugged frontier life claimed many of them in their early thirties indicated that the earlier residents of our township had to be rugged indeed to survive the vicissitudes of early existence here.

The establishment of early churches and the intense patriotism of the early settlers has been transmitted over the years to the citizens of today. I recall, in World War I days, a farmer who went to the bank and offered to pay interest on the war bonds he had purchased as a matter of pride and loyalty to our country, not expecting any return on the money he so willingly offered.

This sketch can touch only briefly on the pioneers who were an important part in the development of Fremont Township, and my hope is that we may prove worthy of our heritage.

Editor's Note: Since the writing of his Chapter, Mr. Wells has passed away. He died April 1, 1955, just 20 days after the death of his wife.



## Clear Lake Township

*By Dr. O. I. Laird*

When looking at the map you will find, in the northeast corner, the smallest township among the twelve that comprise the County of Steuben. It is bounded on the north by Michigan and on the east by Ohio. Although it is the smallest township in the county, and has an area of only ten square miles, there are five townships even smaller in the state of Indiana. Albion Township in Noble County is the smallest in area, being one square mile in size. As to population there are twenty-six townships in the state with less population than that of Clear Lake, which has a population of 379 as of 1954. In 1870 the population was 455, and in 1880 it was 519.



Originally this territory was taken as one large Civil Township and called Brockville, until the establishing of the twelve townships, when it became divided into Fremont and Clear Lake Townships. It received its name from the beautiful Clear Lake, so named because the earliest surveyors noted the clear transparency of the water and the absence of any floating aquatic vegetation.

The township is rated as having fertile soil, although the southern part is a rich sandy loam while the northern part is found to be a light sandy soil.

John Russell was the first permanent settler, entering his land in March of 1836. His family of ten, including seven sons and two daughters, was housed in a "log cabin in the big woods" before the winter came on. Other early settlers were: George and Clark Throop, Lewis Wells, George Hotchkiss, and Hiram Throop.

Erastus Brown, the Lords, and the Burroughs families came here in 1840. Mr. Brown was a traveling preacher and worked among the early settlers in a kindly way, rendering service among the sick when help was needed. The Burroughs family settled near Clear Lake, and nearly all of them died with smallpox, and during their sickness Reverend Brown served them.

George H. Davenport, born in Genesee County, New York, was from a family of ten children. He moved to Clear Lake Township in 1842 and settled on section 16, where he built the first frame house in the township. This location is at the junction of Clear Lake and Camden roads. This same year of 1842, Valentine Rathburn brought his family to settle in Clear Lake Township. He had been a Drum Major in the War of 1812 and was called a "Green Backer" for his politics. He expressed his religion in Thomas Payne's quotation, "This is my home and to do good is my religion."

Rev. Brown made plans for the future growth of the township, and on Sec. 21 he platted a town, which he called Bordenville, and the record is on file in the recorder's office in Angola, Indiana. He also set apart a plat for a cemetery on the north end of "Burying Ground Lake" (now known as Lake Ann), where he was buried in 1845. Quite a number of graves of early settlers are located there.

The first child born in the township was Noah, son of Levi and Abigail Douglas. The earliest marriage was that of Rodney Beach and Charlotte Douglas, and the first deaths were Lovica and

Marion Throop, who died the same year, 1839. The first school house was built at Harris Corners in 1843, and the teacher was Aariah Beach. The early religious services were held at the home of Levi Douglas in 1838 by a Mr. Swiger of the Methodist Faith.

The first officers to serve the township were: Assessor, Cyrus Handy, 1852, who was the grandfather of Burton Handy, at one time President of Tri-State College; Justice of Peace, William N. Wilbur, 1855; Constables, William Lundes and Martin Smith, 1855; Trustee, Stephen A. Powers, 1859.

Clear Lake, situated in the heart of Clear Lake Township of Steuben County, Indiana, is known far and wide over the country for its beauty and clearness of water, with sandy beaches. Vacationers have been coming to these beaches since early times, at least before 1858, when a terrible tragedy occurred in which eleven persons were drowned. The lack of a railroad was a great inconvenience, and also hampered the early settler in marketing his produce.

In the last half century the new type of transportation has established Clear Lake as one of the most beautiful and popular lakes in Indiana. It has been said to be the most beautiful, east of the Mississippi River. The vacationers have come by the thousands each year. It is estimated that 3700 have come from within the state and 1500 from out of state in a year.

There have been found, around this lake and in the creeks, many Indian relics such as broken pottery, stone implements, ornaments, flint, etc. This indicates that there were many Indian camping grounds in this region. It is here that Chief Red Jacket lies buried at a spot near Hazenhurst Hotel, on the north bank of Clear Lake.

Clear Lake Township, small but mighty, even without a town, village, or railroad, is widely known for its great attractions.



Jackson Township

By Myrtle R. Butler

Jackson Township is congressional township 37



north, range 12 east, and lies in the western tier of the county. It is bounded on the north by Millgrove Township, on the east by Pleasant Township, on the south by Salem Township, and on the west by LaGrange County. The township is six miles north and south, and six miles east and west. It has nearly thirty-six sections, or 23,000 acres of land, about 1,000 of which are covered by water. Lake Gage, on the northern border, covers part of section two. Crooked Lake touches section one, the main body being in Pleasant Township. Other lakes are Craig, Beaver Dam, Little, Deep, Shallow, Round, Grass, Gannon, Howard, Green, Bass, Gravel, Mud, and Hogback—the largest lake in the township. Pigeon Creek is a beautiful stream, which flows irregularly west and north through the township.

Jackson Prairie, which properly includes about 2,000 acres, attracted the first settlers to Steuben County. The story of its good soil and beauty was carried to Ohio by travelers and land-lookers, where it reached the interested ears of John and Jacob Stayner, then living in Richland County, Ohio.

It was in the spring of 1831 that the two brothers, John and Jacob Stayner, and a neighbor, George W. Wyrick, started for the prairie, of which they had heard such glowing reports. John Stayner, with his wife, Sarah, and their children, was driving his ox team well in the lead of the other two wagons, and was the first to reach the prairie. Hence he became the first white man to settle in Steuben County.

He struck camp at ten o'clock in the morning, June 18, 1831, on the west half of the southeast quarter of section five, in what is now known as Jackson Township, three and a half miles south of Orland. Being an industrious family, the Stayners began at once to carve out a home for themselves in the new land. They built a fire and the little girls went about getting dinner. Mr. Stayner got his plow out of the wagon, put it together, and plowed "quite a patch" of the rich mellow soil, before he was called to dinner. Mrs. Stayner, with a grub hoe, had dug up and planted the first Steuben County garden with the lettuce and cabbage seeds they had brought with them.

Before night this first pioneer family had made a temporary shelter for themselves by making a tent of the wagon cover. This they used until the crops were all in, after which they built a log

cabin. There was no sawed lumber, so they split boards for roof and floor.

The first crops consisted of corn, potatoes, and buckwheat. Fortunately the fall was late that year and Steuben County's first crops produced a good harvest. But the winter was severe and the nearest grist mill was at Lima (now Howe) and the roads were a solid crust of ice. It became necessary to pound the corn by hand in a wooden mortar. The finest of this they used, with buckwheat, for flour, and the remainder for soup and hominy. But with wild turkey and venison, which were plentiful, there was no real lack of food.

During an early thaw, the neighbors went together and loaded up a sled with corn and buckwheat and got a grist for the whole neighborhood—other settlers had arrived during the summer. It took three days to make the trip to the mill at Lima, and when they got there they found it frozen. They worked all night cutting the ice away from the wheel. When they arrived home at the end of another three days they all had a good feast.

With the passing of that first winter, the hardest of the pioneering was over. The cattle had wintered through on prairie grass, but most of the sheep, which had made the trip from Ohio, had been killed by wolves. There were many Indians about, but except for setting occasional fires that threatened the crops, they caused the settlers no trouble.

On April 27, 1832, Zephaniah B. Stayner was born to John and Sarah Stayner—the first white child born in Steuben County.

It was not until September 27, 1832, more than a year after his first coming to the prairie that John Stayner, with his brother Jacob, and neighbors Andrew Woodward and Isaac Gage, made the trip to Fort Wayne to legally enter their claims and obtain government deeds to their land. But on September 17, ten days earlier, Gideon Langdon had made the first legal entry in Steuben County, his tract adjoining the land entered by John Stayner. So while John Stayner was the first settler in Steuben County, Gideon Langdon was the first to gain legal title to his land.

The first election was held in the Stayner doorway in 1832. A hat was passed for a ballot box. Nine votes were cast—all for Andrew Jackson for President. At John Stayner's suggestion the name "Jackson" was given to the township. The returns

were taken to Lima (Howe) then county seat of LaGrange County, which included Steuben County.

The market place for these early settlers was Fort Wayne. It took three days to make the trip with a load of wheat, for which they received fifty to sixty cents a bushel. Flax was raised, from which they made their clothing.

The Stayners built a small log cabin, which was used as a weaving room, and in which they stored extra beds. It was well to have extra beds; because in those first years, every settler's home became a hotel to shelter the incoming land seekers, until they could establish homes for themselves.

There were many others, who stayed in the Stayner home from time to time. Among these were the surveyors, who were sent out by the government in 1832 to straighten out the boundaries of the newly acquired land.

In 1833 John Huntsman, John D. Parmeter, and Joseph Morgan entered land in Jackson Township. In 1836 the township knew a real boom. Among the settlers coming that year were: Andrew Ellison, Whiting Squires, Adolphus Town, and Justus Butler.

It was at the Stayner home that the settlers gathered to discuss the building of a schoolhouse. It was agreed that the cost of the schoolhouse was not to exceed \$50.00, including labor and material, the expense to be borne pro-rata by the patrons. John Stayner and Adolphus Town built the school house on the north side of the prairie, on property owned by Town. That farm is now owned and occupied by the Lincoln Booth family, it having belonged for years to his maternal grandfather, William Booth.

The building was made of tamarack poles, with one window, with 6 by 9 glass, and one door made of shakes, and a puncheon floor. The first teacher was Hannah Davis, who received \$8.00 a month salary and boarded around with the patrons. While living in the John Stayner home, she was courted by John Huntsman. They were married in 1833 in the little weaving room. This was the first wedding in the county.

The first death was Mrs. Gideon Langdon, wife of the first settler to file on his land, and hers was the first grave in the Jackson Prairie Cemetery.

By act of the Indiana Legislature January 18, 1837, Steuben County was set off from LaGrange County. It was given the name of "Steuben" in

honor of the Prussian General, who gave such valiant aid to the colonists, by drilling their armies in the Revolutionary War. After the county was separated from LaGrange County, an election was again held in the Stayner yard to elect county officials.

Dr. James McConnell, the first practicing physician in the county, was elected County Clerk and County Recorder. His first office was in the Stayner weaving room where for a time he made deeds, settled disputes, and married several couples, the first being the school teacher, Hannah Davis, and James Huntsman. Later he moved his office to Angola.

One might say that the John Stayner home was the cradle of Steuben County history. No vestige remains of the old log house, or the famous weaving cabin. Even the substantial frame structure, that was built later, has long since burned to the ground. But as one stands in the spacious doorway it is easy to visualize the early settlers gathered there over a hundred years ago to settle the many problems which faced them.

Crossing U. S. Highway #20, driving north along highway #327, and turning east on the road leading to Lake Gage one reaches the large dwelling long known as the Ensley Place. It is now occupied by the Harold Rude family. This is the spot where John Stayner pulled up with his covered wagon and livestock so many years ago.

Harold Rude is, himself, a descendant of those early settlers. His father, Lester Rude, still lives on the original homestead, part of which is on the site of the early town of Winchester. Turning west from #327 just before passing the Jackson Prairie Cemetery one reaches this old townsite. When the town of Orland was established the buildings from Winchester were moved into Orland—and its very name forgotten.

By 1840 Jackson Township and Steuben County were thoroughly organized and officered. There was a blacksmith shop near the tamarack school house—the first in the county. Prior to its locating there the settlers had made the long trip to Lima (Howe) to have their work done. A grist mill was operating at Mongo, a distance of only six miles. Life for the settlers was growing easier. In time, Israel Stoddard was elected Justice of the Peace.

The first mail route through Steuben County was from Lima (Howe) to Toledo, Ohio, via Lexington (now Brighton) Vermont Settlement (Orland) Jamestown, Brockville (Fremont). The



second crossed Jackson Prairie, going from Lima to Defiance. Adolphus Town was the first Postmaster—letter postage was twenty-five cents.

Jacob S. VanEpps opened a store on Beaver Dam Run. This was the first store in the township.

While the settlers on the prairie were planting and cultivating their rich level lands, Justus Butler, who had come to the township in 1836, was laboriously clearing his land of timber, on the shores of Lake Gage, part of which lies in the northeast section of the township. William Justus Butler, a grandson of Justus Butler, still lives on the land taken by his grandfather from the government. We have asked him to relate the story of his family, as it touches upon the development of Jackson Township. His account is as follows:

"I have no personal recollection of my grandfather, Justus Butler, and his wife, Anna, who were among the early settlers of Jackson Township, as my grandmother died a few months before I was born, and my grandfather had been dead for many years. But I heard the story many times of their settling on the shores of Lake Gage and of what befell them.

"They came from Elyria, Ohio, in a covered wagon drawn by an ox team, in the year 1836, getting a deed from the government for the land lying on the south and east sides of the lake. The deed was signed by Martin VanBuren and is still in my possession. My father often pointed out to me the apple tree which had grown from a seed they had planted in a flower pot, when they left Elyria. The apple tree had stood west of the log cabin, which had been their first home.

"Later, they built the two-story, bank dwelling, nearer the lake shore, which was long known to the residents of the township as "Rob Roy," so named by a Scotch minister, who rented it for a summer vacation. Until very recent years it stood as the oldest residence in this part of the state. Its outstanding feature was the large brick fireplace—with a hearth on each story.

"The bricks for this fireplace they made by hand. They fired them at the Charley Bachelor brick yard, at the foot of Crooked Lake. It was at this fireplace, with its connecting oven, that my grandmother did all her cooking and baking for her eleven children.

"I heard often of the Indians, who came one day and demanded the loaves, which she had just taken from the oven. The Indians often camped

on the flats on the east side of the lake. They were peaceable enough, but my grandmother never learned to trust them. When the door of her basement kitchen silently opened, without warning, and the room was filled with the dark skinned visitors, she remembered the many stories she had heard of Indians stealing white children. Her own children were cowering in fright in the far corner of the room. So, when the Indians demanded the bread, she gave them the whole eight loaves, though there was a shortage of flour in her larder. Satisfied with the bread, the Indians departed as silently as they had come.

"At the time, my grandfather was away working at the saw mill, which he had put over on the creek, a stream which runs from Crooked Lake into Lake Gage. The old mill race stands as he made it. It was there that he sawed the lumber for the house. For the windows and hardware he drove the ox team to Adrian, Michigan. The trip there and back took a week each way.

"There was a road past the new Butler home, running east and west. It was not much more than an Indian Trail, but it was one of the main highways between Toledo and Chicago. The P. T. Barnum Circus came along the road one day. P. T. Barnum is quoted as saying that of all the lakes he had seen on his travels around the world, this small lake in Steuben was the most beautiful. The heavy circus equipment was hauled by the elephants, which they watered in the lake. That was a big day for the children.

"Only three of the eleven children grew to adulthood. Samuel Eli, one of those three, was killed when lightning struck the barn where he was doing chores. That was after my grandfather had died, and it left my grandmother with only Joe, my father, and Uncle Mark, to clear the land and raise the crops.

"It was after my father retired from his law practice in Angola and his tenure in public office that he moved to the farm south of the original Butler homestead, which he had purchased from a Mr. Bolton.

"There was a house on this farm, with a far view of the lake. It was here that my father established a way of life so common on the ranches of the west. Times were hard and many men were seeking work; many others were going from house to house begging for food. My father took them all in and gave them work at a low wage. Onto the



west side of the house he built a long wing—with a dormitory for the men, overhead, and kitchen and eating quarters below, with a huge fireplace, for which the men had to split the logs.

"As the men found work with better pay they moved on, but there were always others to take their places. My father added a grocery store to the establishment and later the Lake Gage Post Office occupied one corner of the store. My mother was the Postmistress. The mail was brought in by the Star Route carrier, who carried the mail between Angola and Orland. The first one I remember was an elderly man by the name of Neuts, who drove a span of mules. Bruce Rathbun was the first to bring the mail in the little covered cart.

"Sometimes the teacher from the Lake Gage School boarded at our house. This school was located a mile east of us in the building now occupied by Audra Danning and her family. My father taught the school at one time, having attended the Academy at Orland. But there came a day when the school was closed and a bus came to take the pupils in to Flint to the Consolidated School. A day too, when there were no more men seeking farm work. They had gone to town to work in the factories. A day, when my father and I ate alone at the long table by the huge fireplace, served only by a housekeeper. My sister had married and gone, and my mother had died.

"A new note had come into our lives, however. A few cottages began to appear on the shores of the lake. My father built a couple of cottages to rent to summer vacationists. It was in the year 1905 that he laid out the first plat and began selling lots. This was known as the Oakdale Plat on the south side of the lake. This was settled mostly by railroad men from Garrett, who were interested in fishing. Later a plat was laid on the east shore of the lake.

"The coming of the 'Lake People' as we called them, changed our way of life. They had to be met at the train in Angola, with enough rigs to transport a large quantity of luggage. I have known as many as five rigs to make the trip in one day. They came up to the farm for milk and eggs and garden produce. We built a large ice house and cut the ice from the lake, which we delivered to them all summer.

"And still more and more of them came. The advent of the automobile brought them in from a greater distance. We had a car, but my father never tried to drive it. Always he drove his old

horse, 'Daisy,' hitched to his light buggy. Until his death in 1924, the sight of him and old Daisy was familiar to all the lake people.

"After his death I moved my family to the lake cottage known as Idle Wild. My sister, Nola Green, moved into the old home, standing there on the hill, overshadowed by huge hemlocks, with its far view of the lake.

"Most of the lake frontage had been sold before my father's death, but I had a plat made of the remaining frontage, known as the South Side Plat. That too has been sold, with over a hundred cottages crowding each other on most of the Jackson Township frontage.

"Where the Indians once paddled their silent canoes, water craft of every description dart here and there across the water. Even the big Chris Craft boats circle the small lake, often pulling daring young skiers. The gently sloping beaches are filled with bathers. The small airplanes circle overhead, attracted by the beauty of the lake as seen from the air.

"The Indians come no more to the shore of the lake. In 1840 they were moved west. The story goes that they camped on the east flats of the lake near the end of their sojourn in the county. The nights were spent in weeping and wailing for the loss of their beautiful lakes.

"Five years ago the old house which my grandfather had built with such pride was torn down. Its bulging walls presented a danger to the resort children, who loved to play around it. Its windows had long been a target for every boy's stone. Only part of the old brick fireplace is left standing. Many of the old hand-made bricks have been carried down to the cottage below it, where Otto Grant, an attorney from Fort Wayne, has fashioned them into flower planters, where all can enjoy their varying colors. The original one-room structure of the Grant cottage was one of the first cottages on Lake Gage and was long known as the 'Happy Hooligan cottage'."

About a mile east of the Butler property was platted a village which was to be called "Concord." It lay in the northeast corner of the township. No development was ever started there. However, Ray Terry built a large cement block store building not far from its location. This store served the community well for many years. It was a station on the Valley Line Railroad, and to this station, H. E. Bucklen, owner of the railroad, gave the name of "Inverness." Long after the railroad

had been discontinued, the neighborhood was still known as Inverness. The Valley Line was a short railroad, operating from Page, Indiana, to Bristol, Indiana. H. E. Bucklen, maker of "Arnica Salve," had intended to extend it eventually from Toledo to Chicago. It ran one steam train for freight and a gasoline motor coach for passengers.

Here at Inverness Station on New Year's Eve, 1916, occurred the worst accident in the history of Jackson Township. The passenger coach, carrying well over fifty passengers, was unloading at Inverness station, when the steam train following, plowed into it, being unable to stop due to slippery rails. Three of the passengers were killed and at least thirty injured. There were so many damage suits brought against the Line that it had insufficient funds to carry on its operation. Bucklen himself was dead, and the two nephews, who had inherited the Valley Line, decided to discontinue it. The rails were taken up and sold for junk during the First World War. The high-graded road bed can still be traced across the farms.

The large cement block store was torn down in time. The approximate site was later occupied by Longenecker's "Inverness Abattoir."

The only collection of buildings within the borders of Jackson Township which could rightfully be called a village grew up around a saw-mill, which was built in 1834 by Edward Griswold at Flint. This was the first saw-mill of any kind within Steuben County. Griswold operated the mill about four years and moved to Iowa. He sold to Dr. Alonzo Clark, who owned the mill two years and sold to John Thompson, who came in from Canada. Thompson improved the mill and water power greatly. He made a race, removed the old and put in a new mill, this being a grist mill. This changed hands numerous times. In December 1858 the mill burned, causing a loss of not less than \$6,000. In 1861 the grist mill was rebuilt by Wallace and Philo Clark. Again it passed through many hands. It was the last owner, Allison S. Clark, who made a specialty of grinding buckwheat for flour, in its season. The balance of the year was devoted to feed grinding, but they never ground wheat flour. Buckwheat flour from this mill was sought after far and near. This milling plant was originally propelled by the falling waters of Pigeon Creek, but in later years it was operated by steam.

The coming of the mill to the township simplified life for the early settlers, and as life became

easier they turned their attention to matters of education and religion. The school houses for the various districts were built and not only served as class rooms, but as meeting places for the various church groups. The United Brethren Group and the Christian membership both held services in School House #6, later known as the Burl Hughes School. The former group had been organized by Levi Doudt and his wife. The first services were held in the Doudt home, on what is now the Ellis Call farm. There were originally five members besides the Doudts, four of whom were Ann Doudt, Levi Bolin and his wife, and John Beigh.

Almost coincidental with the first church service the first saloon nosed its way into Flint. A man by the name of Carpenter (usually called "Carp") decided he wanted a saloon there and prepared a place in a store building he owned. He went to Toledo, Ohio, bought a stock of liquor, and transported it over land to Flint. He opened the saloon and did some business.

The better people of the village and the surrounding country did not want a saloon in their midst. The resultant battle is an oft-told tale. Meeting after meeting was held to discuss what could be done. Finally a committee was appointed to call on Mr. Carpenter. They offered to buy his stock and wreck it. They also pledged themselves to give him their trade if he would go into a more desirable business. Carpenter refused both suggestions. Then the women of the community decided to take matters into their own hands. Twenty-one of them drove into town on a June day and met at the home of Pint Snyder, the blacksmith. They were well organized—with leaders and captains, and were armed with hatchets, axes, hammers, and ropes. Eleven of the group went to the front door and ten to the rear. The saloon keeper had an inkling that something was going to happen and had several friends there. But in spite of the friends and barricaded doors the women made an entrance and threatened to tie the men up if they interfered with them. No one but Carpenter tried to stop them. He threatened to strike the leader, but was ordered out of the way. They worked until every drop of liquor was poured out on the floor, then they rolled the barrels out in the street and burned them.

Carpenter brought an attorney from Toledo to investigate the case, but nothing was ever done about it. There were too many prominent families involved. A few years later Carpenter started a



store, and his saloon-wrecking neighbors gave him their patronage. No other saloon was opened in Flint.

At least for a time the United Brethren Church fared better than the saloon. About 1872 they moved from #6 schoolhouse to #10, where they remained until 1877, when they built a church in Flint. It was on the Steuben Circuit with several other Churches. The first minister was Jonathan A. Thomas. After a number of set-backs this church, known as the Pleasant View Church, was eventually sold. One of these set-backs was caused by vandals, who robbed the church. They took carpet, stoves, chairs, and tore the back from the organ.

There were other acts of vandalism—and worse, in the township. It is told that there was a gang of bandits headed by McDougal, who had a hide-out near the Harding Bridge, on Pigeon Creek Flats. To protect themselves the citizens organized a secret society known as “The Regulators,” that operated on the lines of the “Ku Klux Klan.” As usual, with such organizations, some of their activities were of benefit to the community, but in other cases acts of injustice were perpetrated.

Spiritualism flourished in the township in the early days and had many followers.

By the year 1885, Flint was a thriving village, with W. J. Huffman, general merchant, John B. Richer, general merchant, and John Crandall, merchant and Postmaster. George Cleveland and Wallace Clark operated the grist mill. There were two practicing physicians—Fred Sherman and John Lewis. Pleasant View Church had over a hundred members and a Sunday School attendance of seventy-five. The Methodist Church was flourishing.

In 1909, when the brick building to house the consolidated school was erected, Flint knew a real building boom. Several of the best homes were put up at that time. The Arnold Brothers built a large cement block store building on the east side of the street. There was the Jack Huffman store, the Denman barber shop, and the Crandall store, which still held the Post Office. Flint was a busy place, with the hitching posts along the street, and many horses, wagons, and buggies.

Lodges flourished at that time. There was the Gleaner Lodge, The Grange, Odd Fellows, Masons, and an Eastern Star Chapter.

The schools brought into the consolidation were No. 1, Lake Gage; No. 2, Stayner; No. 3, No. 4,

Bowerman; No. 5, Flint; No. 6, Doudt; No. 7, Baker; No. 8, Morgan; and No. 9, Otter Lake. Harley Merritt was the township trustee at the time of the consolidation and the organization of the high school. Four school busses brought the pupils in from the outlying districts. They have ever since been a familiar sight on the village street. Wallace Butler was the first principal of the school.

Dr. Nichols was the last practicing physician in Flint. He served the community well for many years. After his home burned he moved his practice into Orland.

Today, Flint is a quiet, peaceful village. The streets are now lined with cars and farmers' trucks, where once the buggies and wagons crowded the street. When the mill burned in the early twenties, the farmers had to take their grist elsewhere and their trade also went elsewhere. Frank Jackson bought the stock of the Arnold Brothers' general store and closed it out. The cement block building was torn down. Fred Mott opened a store in 1936 and closed out in 1954. He also served three terms as Township Trustee.

For a time there was no store to supply the needs of the village of Flint, then on May 26, 1954, Robert and Barbara Pairan opened a grocery store and filling station on the east side of the street.

Flint is now dominated by the school house and the Methodist Church—which stand side by side. Of the several churches, which prospered for a time in Flint, the Methodist Church is the only one which has survived. It was built in 1869, by popular subscription, and was originally meant to be a union church. It was built by Martin Arnold and Dan Benninghoff. It was on a low foundation with steps on each side of a square wooden platform. Here they held the first community Christmas Tree in 1872. The tree was decorated with strings of popcorn, apples, and gifts.

The church then had a very high steeple. The story goes that one Sunday evening, as the young people were gathering for Epworth League, lightning struck the steeple and shattered it badly. Earl Shuman, who had just entered the church, was knocked down and remained unconscious for some time. It was difficult to find any one to go up and saw off the damaged steeple, but Hoyt Brown finally did it.

At first people came in wagons, bringing their neighbors and singing on the way. Then later they came more comfortably in buggies, but had little room for the neighbors who had no buggies.



Some of the early Sunday School teachers were Ervin and Effie Beers, Celia Brown, Emma Morgan, Morris Brown, Aunt Kas Brown, Byron Grube and wife, and Martha Jackson. The earliest ministers preached at four places—Orland, Nevada, Springfield, and Flint. The first minister was a Rev. Watkins.

The present minister is Rev. J. A. Hubbell, who is just starting upon his ministerial duties in the community. The church now has close to 50 members, but an average attendance of 60. The Sunday School has a very large attendance, sometimes reaching the 100 mark.

The school house has become the Community Center for the township. The trustee, Leonard German, reports that there are some weeks when the evenings are too few to accommodate the various organizations that hold their meetings in the basement auditorium. There is the Parent Teacher's Association, the Jackson Township Conservation Club, and the various youth movements; The Future Farmers of America, The Future Homemakers of America, and the 4-H Groups.

The citizens of the township are primarily concerned with the development of their youth. The school concerts, plays, and other activities are well attended. The school has a band of which to be proud. The baseball team gives a good account of itself. Last year's pitcher, August (Buddy) Kurtz, Jr., is in training with the "White Sox." The school, though small, is noteworthy for having developed leadership among its student body. The present principal of the school is Ira Bright, who is assisted by an able corps of teachers.

There are township organizations which meet in the several homes: The Home Economics Club, The Farm Bureau, and the "Neighborhood Parties." The Masons, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the Eastern Stars, meet with the Orland groups.

As one drives about the township, one is impressed by the spaciousness and well-kept appearance of the homes of an earlier day. About a mile southeast of Flint is the ultra-modern farm home of Neva and Glen Golden. This home was featured in Capper's Weekly and its picture reproduced on the cover of that magazine. Here Neva Golden edits the "Farm News," a small paper devoted to the rural interests of the County.

On the southern border of the township lie the resorts of Otter Lake and Hogback Lake. The former is developing a new building project on the high flats overlooking the Lake. Hogback lake,

consisting of about 200 acres, has in the neighborhood of 25 cottages on the waterfront. The Holsinger store supplies groceries, bait, and rental cottages.

It is reputed that the 75 foot hill, which gives the lake its name, was once used as a lookout by Mad Anthony Wayne, when he fought the Indians in this region. An old Indian cemetery lies at the base of Hogback Hill.

On the eastern line of the township, facing U. S. Highway No. 20, is located the Tri-State Airport, with Paul Eyster in charge of the field. This was established April 1, 1929, with only four planes and one hangar. Today there are 25 planes on the field. A new hangar, costing \$25,000, is now under construction. The east-west runway is being extended to a distance of 4,000 feet. The field has its own maintenance shop, with licensed mechanics. The licensed pilots not only teach aeronautics to Tri State students and local men interested in learning to fly, but they maintain a charter service to distant points.

Where the early settler, clutching the handles of his crude plow, followed his oxen with downcast eyes, today's farmer, on the seat of his tractor, sometimes looks up at the sound of a motor overhead and notes the flight of an airplane, or looking toward the distant horizon, sees a stream of white hanging there, and knows that a jet plane has taken its breath-taking course in that direction.



Pleasant Township

*By Hazel Kirk*

Pleasant Township lies in the heart of Steuben County's picturesque hill and lake region. This center township has 22,000 acres of land; about 3,000 of which were covered by water. Many small lakes have disappeared, due to the settlement and drainage of the township and the county.

In August 1835, a Free-Will Baptist minister, named John Stealy made the first entry of land in the township. He and his family came from Marion County, Ohio, arriving and settling here February 17, 1836. From Ypsilanti, Michigan, in

May, 1836, came the next settlers, Samuel Pierson and family.

Angola was built on land entered April, 1836, by Thomas Gale and Cornelius Gilmore. In August, there arrived Daniel and David Phenicie. They settled about three miles northeast of Angola. It was Daniel and David Phenicie who opened the road from about one mile south of Brockville (now Fremont) to section 12, this township. As previously arranged, they were met by Cornelius Gilmore and John Whelan, who had cut the road from Angola to that point.

By 1840, the following persons had entered land and settled in the township: Michael Alcott, Peter Bowman, George W. Balding, Fremont Case, Amos Carpenter, Stephen Cary, William M. Cary, William Chayter, Lyman G. Covell, E. Crain, Robert Douglass, Daniel Gay, Jesse M. Gale, Adolphus Gale, John Gale, Daniel Higbee, Mr. Howell, King Ireland, James H. Johnson, George C. Latson, James Lockwood, Thos. Mugg, G. Mugg, Isaac Miller, Dr. M. F. Morse, Dr. James McConnell, George W. McConnell, William McConnell, J. Pierce, D. F. Palmer, Reuben Phelps, Francis Sowle, Able Sowle, Joseph Sowle, James Smith, Alonzo Strong, William Sherwood, A. S. Sherwood, Julius Spencer, E. Slear, Andrew Torkey, Mr. Van Wormer, Alexander Ward, and Joel Weber.

After the Civil War, Pleasant Township developed rapidly due to the building of a railroad, north and south. This furnished the necessary outlet for the shipment of crops, which previously had to be hauled by wagon train to Coldwater, Michigan, or Waterloo and Fort Wayne, Indiana, for a railroad market. It took from two to three days to make the drive, and the trip was made with great expense and inconvenience. Wheat was 50 to 60 cents a bushel.

An independent company of citizens supported the first railroad, to be known as the Ft. Wayne, Jackson, and Saginaw, which was an extension of the Jackson and Saginaw line to Fort Wayne. Through the process of refinancing, the road was leased to the Lake Shore and Michigan Central, later becoming part of the New York Central system. In the late sixties, the first train came into Angola from the north, and this really was a momentous occasion, for Angola was the only station in Pleasant Township. This service was continuous until about 1943 when motor transportation took over.

Pleasant Township has not been found wanting in patriotism. This was shown during the Civil War, followed by the Spanish-American War, and World Wars I and II, with those who served their country and served it well.

Farm lands and the increasing value of the lake regions are contributing natural assets to the township.



## Scott Township

By Jesse Covell

At the time of the original survey in 1831, what is now Scott Township, was known only as Township 37 North, Range 14 East, and was such a dense forest that hardly a clearing could be found large enough for the early pioneer to build his cabin. At that time so much of the land was wet or under water, that Scott Township soon became known as the "Great Swamp." At this early date not many white men had ever set foot on the soil of this township, and as the white settlers began to arrive in Steuben County, they passed by Scott Township to make their home on land better drained, and with not such a heavy growth of timber.

It wasn't until 1838 that the Federal Government moved the last of the Indians westward beyond the Mississippi River, and soon thereafter the white settlers came in large numbers.

When LaGrange County was organized May 15, 1832, what is now Steuben County was included with LaGrange County. On June 26, 1837, when Steuben County was first organized, the townships in the County had not yet been named, and it wasn't until about the year of 1850 that this township received its name. The writer has been unable to find any authentic information as for whom it was named.

The first land entry in Scott Township was made by John Van Horn on April 27, 1836, and was for land in Sections 3, 4, 9, and 10. The second entry was made on May 17 in the same year by David Phenicie, it being for land in the southwest fractional quarter of section 18.



The first settlers to arrive in the township were Elder Silas Headley and Daniel Hill, who came in 1836; and Daniel Hill was the first to build a cabin. Soon thereafter came John Wheeland, Nathan Beckwith, L. Warden, Peter Wolf, Daniel Headley, Peter Magers, David Phenicie, Justin Waite, Orlando Arnold, D. H. Sutton, Francis Ewing, Roswell Sutton, David Sutton, and A. W. Woodworth. These families and their descendants were responsible in a large degree for the early development of the township.

The first marriage was Roswell Sutton to Nancy McMinn, about the year of 1842. A son was born to Elder and Mrs. Silas Headley, and was the first white child born in the township.

The first frame house in the township was built in 1850, by Wellington Cook. Scott Township was a part of York Township until March 1849, and at that time two miles off the west side was attached to Pleasant Township. However, in 1850, Scott was given recognition as a township, less Sections 1, 12, 13, 24, 25, and 36, which were taken away from Scott and permanently attached to York, which was the means of making York about  $\frac{3}{5}$  of a full township, and leaving Scott with thirty sections or about  $\frac{5}{6}$  of a full township.

The first school house in Scott Township was built in school district number 4, and was called the Woodworth School, located in the southeast quarter of section 27, which site at the present time (1954) is called Tri-State Park, on U. S. Highway #20, about six miles east of Angola, Indiana.

The first teacher in this school was Miss Lorraine Pierce. The first teacher in the township was Mrs. Mahala Lobdell, who taught in her own home.

In the early days of Scott Township, school was first held in the settlers' homes. In a few years, and after more settlers had arrived to make their homes here, school houses of logs were built at locations best suited to getting the pupils there in the shortest distances.

About the year of 1870, or possibly before, the township was divided into ten school districts located as follows: (brick and frame school houses were soon constructed with better school equipment.)

District No. 1. Named the "Gifford" School was located in the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of section 11.

District No. 2. Being located in the center of the township was called "Scott Center" school, and was located in the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of section 16.

District No. 3. Named the "Jones" school was located in the northeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 8.

District No. 4. Named the "Woodworth" school, was the first school to be built in the township, and was located in the middle part of the southeast quarter of section 27.

District No. 5. Named the "Zimmerman" school was located in the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 32.

District No. 6. Named the "Tasker" school was located in the northeast corner of section 18.

District No. 7. Named the "Straw" school was located in the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of section 3.

District No. 8. Named the "Star" school was located in the northwest corner of the northwest quarter 27. This was a frame school building.

District No. 9. This school building was either a log or frame building and was first located in the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of the section 2, and was named the "Whip-poor-will" school. This school house was later torn down, and a new school house of brick was built in the southeast corner of section 19, and was named the Cole school.

District No. 10. Named the "Leininger" school was built of brick, and was the last of the one-room school houses built in the township. It was located in the very southwest corner of Scott Township in section 31.

#### Early School Houses in Scott Township

May 6, 1843                      In T, 37 North Range 14, East.

The inhabitants of School District No. 4, met pursuant to a previous notice to select a site for a school house and to do any other business necessary to be done.

1st. Resolved that the school house be built on the south west quarter of the north west quarter of section sixteen (16) in said District, as near the north east corner of said forty acre lot as the ground will admit.

2nd. Resolved: that said house be 18 feet by 18.

3rd. Resolved that Orlando Patee, Chester Wright, and William Wood, be the Trustees of said District.

This is a copy of a Resolution furnished by Mrs. Lowell Deller, which was found in some old papers in the house in which they live.

In 1853, there was another school house located in the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of section (15) fifteen on land owned at that time by David Orewiler. This was also a log school house. The land is now owned by Mrs. Jesse Zimmer.

After the consolidated school law was passed by the legislature in 1915, a consolidated school was built in the center of Scott Township, large enough to accommodate all of the school children in the township.

This building was started in the spring of 1917, while Cornelius Jones was township trustee. The school building was not completed in time to start the school term of 1917 and 1918, but was completed in the early part of 1918. About February 1, 1918, the pupils from the Star, Jones, Gifford, Tasker, and Straw schools were transported there by horse drawn hacks and the school year was completed there.

Evangeline Arnold Frederick was the teacher for grades one, two, and three. Nina Story was the teacher for grades four, five, and six, and Elsie M. Covell was appointed by H. Lyle Shank, County Superintendent of Schools, as the first Principal of Scott Center School.

In the fall of 1918 the first High School was organized in Scott Township. Sim Ryan, Marvin Foster, Bert A. Markham, and Lewis O. Weiss, were the first hack drivers to haul the pupils to the new consolidated school. At that time there was no law governing the kind of conveyance, so several kinds of hacks were used. The roads were unimproved, and the mud was usually deep during the spring months, sometimes making it almost impossible to get the pupils to and from school.

About the year of 1920, soon after the three mile gravel road law was passed, a program was started to improve the township roads, and after a few years they had been improved to such an extent that nearly all of the pupils could be transported to and from school in motor driven vehicles.

In 1938, while Levi Dygert was trustee, an addition was built to the school building, providing more room for the high school students and also for the grades. The people of Scott Township have always been in favor of higher education for their children, and therefore have kept pace

with most of the larger and more wealthy townships in the county.

Now, in the year of 1954, there is a movement on foot to transfer the high school students from Scott Center High School to the High School in Angola, for better and higher education. If this is accomplished, it will have its advantages and also its disadvantages.

### **The Churches of Scott Township**

In the early days of Scott Township, religious services were held in the homes of the settlers, and later in the school houses. In all, there were three churches built in the township, namely the North Scott Church, known as the Disciples of Christ, The Jones Free Methodist, and the Independent Church of South Scott.

#### **The North Scott Church**

By Mr. and Mrs. Ivor Covell

The North Scott Church was founded May 22, 1859, and was called the Disciples of Christ. The church was organized at Gifford and Headley school house, and was composed of the following members:

Michael Cline	Elizabeth Dilabaugh
Barbara (Orewiler) Cline	Jane Dygert
Lyman G. Covell	Daniel Headley
Maria (Hollis) Covell	Louisa Headley
Joshua Carpenter	John Sharritt
Nancy Disbro	Margaret Sharritt

After this group was organized meetings were held at different places, and within five years one hundred and twenty members were enrolled on the church register. Most of the early settlers of North Scott and the northwest part of York Township were members of this church. The corner stone of the present North Scott building was laid June 20, 1886.

The descendants of Lyman G. and Maria Hollis Covell, including six generations, have been in attendance at this church for ninety-five years. At present (1954) four generations of the Covell family are regularly attending religious services here. They are as follows: Fred W. Covell, Ivor Covell, Ethel Covell, Glenn D. Covell, Joyce Covell, Derold Howard Covell, Leonard Covell, and Alvin B. Covell. The North Scott Church is very active at this time, and has a well organized Sunday School and Church Service each week. The attendance at Sunday School averages between seventy-five and eighty. The present minister is Elder S. Glenn Cameron of Bryan, Ohio.



Some of the former Ministers were: Elder Silas Headley, Elder D. C. Hanselman, Elder Chappel, Elder Parker, Elder M. O. Johnson, Elder J. O. Rose, Elder Donald C. Ford, Elder Russell F. Handy, Elder Arthur Brewer, Elder A. P. Benjamin, Elder James McCord, and many others.

The Church has a well organized and very active Ladies Aid. In October 1934, the Church decided they needed more room to better serve the community, and at that time a basement was excavated under the church, and a dining room, a furnace room, and a kitchen were made, and an oil furnace was installed in 1952. A Thanksgiving supper is served here each year, to more than two hundred people. The basement is also used for classes during the Sunday School service.

Mrs. Howard White is President of the Ladies Aid, Mrs. Earl Hantz is Secretary, and Mrs. Shirley Beard is Treasurer.

The officers of the Church for the year of 1954 are as follows: Reuben L. Ridenour, chairman of the board; Royal Ivor Covell, Treasurer; and John Zimmerman, Secretary. The Trustees are Royal Ivor Covell, John Zimmerman, and Emmet B. Chard. At this time (August 1954) the North Scott Church has about one hundred and twenty-five active members.

### **The Jones Chapel Methodist Church**

By Mr. and Mrs. Vern Jones

The Jones Chapel Methodist Church was built in 1898 on land given by the Samuel Jones heirs. It was located in the northeast corner of Section 8 in Scott Township. Previous to 1898 services were conducted in the Jones school house.

It was served by a circuit rider with Fremont, Ray, and York. After a while Fremont and Ray withdrew from the circuit leaving York and Jones Chapel.

Some of the early members were:

Mr. & Mrs. Ziba Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Wesley Jones  
Mrs. Nelson Hutchins  
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Reppert

Later members were:

Miss Ella Hutchins      Henry Reppert  
Mrs. Carrie Hutchins      Mrs. Jessie Gridley Stroh  
Dygart  
Albert, Elve & Alice      Mrs. Ella Gridley Elliott  
Jones

Augustine Reppert & Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Young  
Family

Cornelius Jones & Fam- Mrs. Lillie Glime  
ily

Jacob Shoup & Family Mrs. Wm. Richardson &  
Family

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Miss Edith Kaufman  
Brooks

Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Hut- Geo. Greenameyer &  
chins Family

Mrs. Oliver Huss and Daughters, Lucy and Ethel

The Church was very active for many years and was kept in good repair until 1935. It was recently sold and is now used as a community building.

The first physician in the township was Dr. John H. Moore, who was born in Ohio in 1820. He graduated from the Cincinnati Eclectic College of Medicine, and began his practice in Mahoning County, Ohio. In 1853 he came to Steuben County and lived in Angola four years, then moved to Scott Township, where he soon had a very extensive practice. He located in section 17, and all of the early settlers recall his beautiful country home.

He ministered to all who called him, far and near, regardless of who they were or their ability to pay. He died September 29, 1891, at the age of seventy-one, and is buried in the Jones cemetery.

The first Blacksmith in Scott Township was Peter Wolf, who was one of the early settlers.

### **Sawmills**

The first sawmill in the township was a water-powered mill, established on Pigeon Creek, in the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of section 15, and was put into operation about the year of 1845. Just who owned this mill at first is not known, but in 1853 and thereafter it was known as Cline's Mill, as that was the name of the man who owned land on which the mill was located at that time.

This mill was operated for a while by John Kissinger, and he and his family lived in the upper story. Later it was operated for a time by John and Samuel Ranney. At this mill much of the lumber for the early homes in Scott Township was sawed. It did a thriving business until about the year of 1870, when it was closed down forever, and other steam-powered sawmills came into existence.

About the year of 1870, a steam-powered saw-mill was put into operation about one mile north and one mile east of Scott Center in the east one-half of the southwest quarter of Section 10, which was owned and operated by William Pifer, and was known as Pifer Mill. This mill was operated for many years, and sawed much of the lumber needed to build the early homes and other buildings in Scott Township. This mill was discontinued about the year of 1900.

In 1886 another steam sawmill was established and put into operation by William Ellis, in the southeast quarter of Section 28. This mill also did a good business for many years. One day while Frank Ellis, son of the owner, was working near the saw, he slipped on a piece of bark lying near the saw and fell onto the saw in such a way as to cut through his right shoulder, until his lung could be seen.

Dr. Hugh Wood was called, and at first not much hope was given for his recovery, but Dr. Wood in his gruff but competent manner sewed up the wound as best he could. For many days the life of Frank Ellis hung in the balance, but after awhile he began to get better and in due time was well again. He fully recovered except for the use of his right arm. He later married Bertha Bowman, and they raised a nice family. He lived a full and useful life, being more than seventy years of age at the time of his death.

#### **Tile and Brick Mills**

About the year of 1884, James Foreman was operating a tile mill in the Northwest quarter of section 2, and for many years was engaged in the making of much needed drain tile to carry away the water which was so plentiful over much of the land of Scott Township at that time. This locality was known at that time as Pigeonville.

In 1889, Delbert and Jerry Dygert also opened a tile and brick mill in the southwest quarter of section 2, and manufactured tile and brick there.

About 1885, Harvey Dygert was making tile and brick in the northwest quarter of section 3, which were greatly needed at that time in Scott Township.

#### **Ellis Store**

About the year of 1886, William H. Rogers opened a general store across the road from the Ellis mill, and the community became known as Ellis. The store did a thriving business for many years,

being operated by various people, who were as follows: William H. Rogers, Ora Day, Ora Ewers, Orrin J. Rickard, Henry Light, Jonas Somerlott, Frank Ellis, Daniel Headley, Arthur Hanselman, David Waller, Sherman Goodrich, Charles Smith, Oliver Fry, Orville Maugherman, Frank Tiffany, and Orrin Kidney.

This store was discontinued in 1935, torn down and moved away. Ellis, like many other country stores, was a place where farmers needing groceries and other supplies could gather in the evening and learn news of the community and nation.

For many years before the coming of good roads and automobiles, there was a post office in the Ellis store. For many years there was a blacksmith shop at Ellis, owned and operated by Newton Moughler.

#### **Drainage**

As previously stated, Scott Township was known for many years as the "Great Swamp" so much of the land being under water. There was a natural water course flowing through the center of the township, from the northeast to the southwest. About the year of 1885, or before, this water course became an established drain known as Pigeon Creek, and contracts were let to dig this ditch deeper and wider. This work was all done with hand tools, and horses and scrapers, but owing to the high banks in many places it was not a success, and it was impossible to get the proper outlet for much of the water coming into this drainage system.

In 1901, a petition was filed by George Shrimplin and others, in the Steuben County Circuit Court, asking that this water course be dredged from the source near the south side of Cedar Lake in Fremont Township, through Pigeon Lake in Scott Township to Pleasant Lake, and thence in a northwesterly direction through Golden Lake and Flint, as far as Mongo, in LaGrange County and there ending.

To do this work two "dredge boats," as they were called, were built, one about five miles east of Fremont, and another which was a larger boat, near Pleasant Lake, Indiana. These boats both started digging about the same time in the fall of 1902. They were floated down stream digging the ditch deeper and wider as they went until in the fall of 1904, when the one coming down from Cedar Lake, had reached Pleasant Lake, where



it was dismantled and shipped by rail to the next job.

The contractor and owner of these dredges was Hugh Harding. He was a fine gentleman, and required his men to do their work well. The men who operated this dredge were as follows: Jerry Goodsell, foreman and operator; Cal Harter, cranesman; and Charlie Waymire, fireman on one shift. On the other shift were Isaac Liebreuz, assistant foreman and operator; Everett Mackay, cranesman; and Barney McDonald, fireman. Chas. Buchanan, who was called "Buck" was in charge of the cook boat which was floated down stream, fastened to the rear of the dredge. They generated their own electricity on the dredge, and worked night and day.

The men operating this dredge had their troubles all the way, and at one time during the summer of 1903, when the dredge was about one-half mile east of the Scott Center school house, the boat sank. After about two weeks delay, the boat was raised and went into operation again. It reached Pigeon Lake in the fall of 1903, and was pulled across the lake about one quarter of a mile to the outlet, by two row boats with cables fastened to each front corner of the dredge. Mr. Harding, the owner of the dredge, was present, and assumed responsibility of crossing the lake, by taking over the controls himself. The men who operated this dredge were a fine bunch of men, liked by all who knew them.

On the completion of this project, an outlet had been provided for the drainage of most of the low and swamp lands of Scott Township. Several thousand acres of wet and unproductive land had been reclaimed, and in just a few years were under cultivation and in heavy production of all kinds of farm crops. However, it took long hours, and much hard labor to construct the open ditches and many tile drains necessary to reach out from the main ditch and drain all of the swamps and low wet land coming into this drainage system.

When this project was finally completed, Pigeon Lake in section 29 had been lowered five feet. This just about ruined it as a summer resort, and to this day (1954) no cottages have ever been built on its shores.

A small portion on the east side of Scott Township drains to the southeast into Fish Creek, and then into the St. Joseph River, near Edgerton, Ohio.

Mr. Thomas P. French, former school teacher, was County Engineer at the time Pigeon Creek was surveyed, and did most of the engineering work. He was later appointed superintendent of construction by the Board of Commissioners of Steuben County, and followed this drainage project through until it was completed, which was the largest ever undertaken in Steuben County until that time.

### Automobiles and Airplanes

The honor of driving the first automobile over the roads of Scott Township goes to either John J. Kinney, Angola banker, or Dr. Samuel C. Wolfe, Angola dentist. The writer is not sure which one of the above mentioned men was the first, but both were known to have done so soon after 1900.

The first man living in Scott Township to purchase an Automobile was Zachariah Panabaker. This machine was a Reo, purchased about 1905. This was a five passenger car without a top, having a rounded tonneau called a "swell-body," with a door which opened at the rear. It soon became known as Zack's "Snuffer."

Other owners of Automobiles in the township were Lester A. Eater, who purchased a Carter Car about 1910, and Solomon Nicholas, who owned one of the first Fords. Freeman O. Weiss also owned one of the early Fords. Frank Harman and Cassius Zimmer were early owners of Overlands, and Wesley Sowles was the first to own a Haynes. George Zimmer and James Brevier were the first rural mail carriers to use automobiles in the delivery of mail.

The first man to fly an airplane over Scott Township was Art Smith, Fort Wayne "Birdboy" as he was known at that time. For more than a year prior to 1913, Art Smith with the help of a friend, and with money furnished to him by his father and mother, had been building his own plane in his father's barn in the city of Fort Wayne. After several attempts to fly, and about as many crack ups, in the autumn of 1913 his plane was ready for what he thought was to be a long flight.

In the afternoon of October 15, 1913, Art Smith with his fiancée, Miss Amy Cour, took off in the plane and eloped to Hillsdale, Michigan, following the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad, passing over Angola, and also over the northwest corner of Scott Township. The day was nice but quite cool, and as they had no pro-

tection from the cool breeze, when they arrived over Hillsdale, about five o'clock in the evening, they were so cold that Smith had great difficulty landing his plane. They came down in a corn field and the plane turned over and both of the occupants were quite seriously injured. They were taken to the hospital, and married later that evening while they were each lying in bed. After rebuilding his plane, Art Smith and his wife toured the world giving exhibition flights. The first man to land a plane in Scott Township was "Wild Bill Hess" who was flying an early chain-drive plane from east to west across the middle of the township about June 2nd, 1916. The plane developed some trouble near the Scott Center Schoolhouse, and was landed on the John Cole farm about one mile west. The next morning the pilot got the plane repaired and took off for the west, no one knew where.

### **The Dirigible Shenandoah**

The first Dirigible to fly over Scott Township and Steuben County, was the U. S. Naval Air Ship Shenandoah. It passed over Scott Township about 10:30 P.M., on October 2, 1924.

This giant ship was over 900 feet long and more than 90 feet in diameter. It was a beautiful night, not a cloud in the sky, and the stars were shining brilliantly. This great ship was between 2000 and 3000 feet high and could be easily seen against the sky, with all motors working perfectly. It had been attending fairs in the state of Nebraska, and was on its return trip to its home base at Lakehurst, New Jersey.

In September of the following year this same ship made a cross country flight to the west coast, and after spending a week or ten days out there, was on its return trip and while over the eastern part of Ohio, it ran into a storm and was destroyed. The rear part of the ship fell in eastern Ohio, and the front end came down in Western Pennsylvania. All the men riding in the gondola under the belly of the ship were killed when the gondola broke loose and fell about 2000 feet to the ground. All men who happened to be up in the hull of the ship were shaken up badly when they rode it down to the ground, but none were killed.

For some years the United States Navy had been experimenting with this kind of ship, but it was found to be unsafe, and not of much military value, so after the Akron, the Macon, and the

Shenandoah had all been lost in a similar manner, the government gave up the idea and didn't build any more.

The Los Angeles, another giant air ship, was built by Germany. It was delivered to the United States and was to be all that we were to get for our part in the first World War. It also passed over the north part of Scott Township a few years later. This kind of ship was very dangerous and was very difficult to operate in bad weather. This kind of ship is not built by any nation now.

In 1909, 1910 and 1911, Mr. H. E. Bucklen extended the St. Joseph Railroad east from Angola, through the north half of section 30, and thence east through the middle of sections 29, 28, 27, and 26 to the east line of Scott Township, and then continuing east through the middle of sections 25, 30, 29, and 28 in York Township to the Indiana-Ohio State line and there ending. It had been Mr. Bucklen's intention to build the railroad as far east as Pioneer, Ohio, but Mr. Bucklen died about this time, soon after World War I started, and nothing more was ever done to build it farther east.

After the death of Mr. Bucklen, a receiver was appointed for the railroad and he, with the consent of Mr. Bucklen's heirs, sold the railroad for junk and it was torn up in 1918 and 1919.

In 1912, Mr. H. E. Bucklen, owner of the railroad, built a town in the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of section 25, in York Township, which he named Berlien. This town did a thriving business for several years, having a grain elevator, a stock yard, a lumber yard, a depot, freight house, a blacksmith shop, and also a grist mill.

In the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 26, in Scott Township, Mr. Bucklen built a general store of cement blocks. This store was first occupied in 1913 by Arnold Brothers of Flint. In 1915 they sold their interest to Cecil Iden, who ran the store for about two years, when he sold his stock of goods to Ralph Adams. Mr. Adams operated the store until 1920, when he sold to Roy McDougale. In 1922, Mr. McDougale sold it back to Ralph Adams, who continued the business until 1930, when the store was closed forever.

In this store, about the year of 1923, was the first radio receiving set in Scott Township. The farmers living in the near-by neighborhood would gather in the evening to do their trading and en-



joy the radio programs from the pioneer radio station KDKA, from East Pittsburgh, Pa.

The store building was purchased soon after 1930, by John Leininger and Robert Hantz. About the year of 1937 the building was purchased by James Unger, who dismantled it and used cement blocks and other materials to build a building on North Wayne Street in Angola, which he used in connection with his bait business there. He later turned the store into a hardware and fisherman's supply store.

In writing the history of Scott Township, I am indebted to the following people, whose help is greatly appreciated: Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Ivor Covell, Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Deller, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Jones, Mr. Sim Ryan, Mr. Fred W. Covell, Mr. Cary E. Covell, Mr. Guy Covell.



## York Township

*By Dorsey Folck*

York Township is the central township on the eastern border of Steuben County. It is six miles in length and nearly three and three-fourths miles in width. It contains approximately twenty-two square miles or 14,500 acres.

The land is quite rolling and most of it is more fitted for grazing than for other farm purposes. However, there are some very productive farms in the township and the soil is usually a rich clay loam. There is very little good timber left in the township, as most of the valuable Walnut, Oak, Cherry, white wood and Maple trees have either been destroyed or cut and sold.

The township is chiefly drained and watered by Fish Creek. The northern portion is on the divide between waters flowing into Lake Michigan and Lake Erie, with a small portion being drained by Pigeon Creek. The township has no lakes.

The first white settler in the township appears to have been Fayette Barron, who settled where the village of Metz stands at the present time. He settled there in 1836. That same summer Clark and Calvin Powers came here and located land and the

following year, in July, 1837, the Powers families arrived. They journeyed from New York State by ox team and covered wagon. It took them six weeks of constant hardships to make the trip. The 1837 settlers consisted of Clark, Calvin, Stephen A. and Winn Powers, Augustus Woodworth, and Jack Cary. From this date until 1840, there were a dozen or more stalwart settlers added to the township. There are still descendants of these families living in York Township on the original land that their ancestors cleared over a hundred years ago. It might be noted here that the mothers of these pioneer families had a great deal to do with the success of their pioneer venture and had as much diplomacy and integrity as the pioneer fathers. There were many Potawatomi Indians living in and around the township at that time and the diplomacy of these mothers and fathers was often put to the acid test in their meeting with the red men of the forest. They also came in close contact with a great many wild animals which were here in prolific numbers when the first settlers arrived.

The first school taught in the township was in a log cabin in the winter of 1837-38, and was taught by Winn Powers. Later there was a brick schoolhouse at Hathaway Corners (now known as York Center) and one at Powers Corners (which is now known as Nine Mile Corner.) The York Center schoolhouse still stands but it is not used for school, and the one originally at the Nine Mile Corner has been torn down to make room for a filling station.

It might be noted here that some of the very early brick structures in the township were made of home made bricks. These bricks were made of suitable soil found on Fish Creek Flats. There was no end to the ingenuity of these early pioneers.

The first frame barn in the township was built by Calvin Powers in Section 17 and still stands today, on the farm now known as the Jim Dunham farm.

The schools of York and Richland townships became consolidated in the year 1915, and a schoolhouse was built in the village of Metz. A gymnasium was added to the school in 1936. At the present time they have a lunch room cafeteria for the teachers and children.

There is a church near York Center. The Church of Christ in Metz was built in 1864, and still has a flourishing group of worshippers. Through the efforts of the Powers families a Free Church building was erected one and one-half miles north

of Metz in 1879. This church still stands but at the present time is used only for reunions and gatherings. There is a cemetery connected with this church and in 1937 a large stone was set here to commemorate the centennial of the Powers families landing in this territory. This stone was set through the efforts of one of the descendants of the Powers family, namely Stephen A. Powers, who now resides at Lake Gage. The Powers Church has been cared for and preserved through all these years by the same family lineage which is now in fourth generation hands, namely Wayne Powers. Mildred Folck is treasurer of the cemetery fund and is also a fourth generation of the Powers Family. There are two other cemeteries in the township, namely York Cemetery and Dygert Cemetery.

The population of the township in 1940 was 760. The main roads that traverse the township are Road 20, Road 1, and Road 120. However, the toll road which was started in the summer of 1954 is going to cross the township from the Ohio line at Road 20 and will cross in a northwesterly direction.

The Bucklen Railroad crossed the township in 1911 at a point 2 miles north of Metz, and was taken up in 1918.

York Center now consists of a grocery store and a filling station.

Metz is a village of 175 population. It consists of several business places, church, school, and post office. There was a bank in Metz from 1919 until about 1935.



## Salem Township

*By Josephine Parsell*

To the children of yesterday, the children of today, and the children of tomorrow, I dedicate my chapter of the Steuben County History; with the hope that it will bring pleasant memories to the children of yesterday, be an inspiration to the children of today, and a challenge to the children of tomorrow.

It seems the rightful heritage of every child

in Salem Township to have some knowledge of his ancestors and the foresight they possessed. In this modern world filled with luxuries and plenty, it is difficult for the generations of today to realize that life hasn't always been easy. Let us be mindful that by toil worn hands, undaunted courage, and a determined spirit, our pioneer forefathers laid a foundation for us, much stronger and greater than the material things of this modern world. They have given us a faith, a hope, and a freedom that only a peace loving people can possess.

I want to thank every person who has so willingly helped with the necessary data for this history. It has been a pleasant experience.

Without the help of Mrs. Cora Wisel Zent Shields, much of this history would have been impossible. Mrs. Shields, who is the daughter of Daniel Wisel, lives with her husband, Albert Shields, one mile south and one mile west of Salem, in the old Wisel home. She is 83 years of age with a keen mind, and a sense of humor that endears her to her relatives, neighbors, and friends.

Mrs. Eshu Tritch has spent hours and days in collecting data for Helmer and Turkey Creek. To her, I am ever thankful for the valuable contribution she has made.

### Salem Township

Salem Township lies in the southwest corner of Steuben County. It is bounded on the north by Jackson Township, on the east by Steuben Township, on the south by DeKalb County, and on the west by LaGrange County. The township, which is nearly a six mile square, contains a little less than thirty-six sections, or nearly 23,000 acres. This acreage is drained by Turkey and Mud Creeks.

Salem Township is a beautiful pastoral locality containing several good sized lakes. Big Turkey Lake, which lies on the western boundary, is the largest, and a separate account of this lake is given elsewhere in this chapter. Other lakes found in Salem Township are Little Turkey in Section 35, Lime Kiln in sections 28 and 29, Mud Lake in section 17, and Henry Lake in the corner of sections 17, 18, 19, and 20. Henry Lake was named from an early settler, M. Henry, who settled on the farm now owned by Mrs. Mae Hall. He and his sons were frequent fishermen at this lake and so the lake was called Henry Lake. McClish



Lake is in section 31, and Lake of the Woods extends from LaGrange County in section 30. This lake has been developed in recent years and is a resort center. Every few years the Indiana State Conservation Club stocks these lakes with blue gill, trout, bass, and red eye.

The surface of Salem Township is quite rolling but offers many level fields for cultivation. The soil runs from Bellefontaine fine sandy loam to Miami fine sandy loam, with numerous spots of muck and clay. The elevation is between 900 ft. and 1000 ft.

Donald Norman has been active in the truck farming enterprise, as was his father, George Norman. Dean Norman is now associated with his father, making three generations to carry on this type of farming. Other truck farmers are Jennings Luttmann, Roy Luttmann, and Arden Tubbs.

With the advent of tractors, combines, corn pickers, and other modern farm machinery, the farmers of Salem Township have found more time for the raising of chickens, cattle, sheep, and pigs. Wayne Bowser, living north of Helmer on 327, has a large broiler house with several hundreds of birds. Large flocks are also cared for on the LaOmer Bidwell farm north of Helmer, and on the Sam Greeno farm near Salem. Worthy Stroman of Helmer, specializes in purebred sheep and has some outstanding show animals. Since 1914 he has been a breeder of a fine line of Hampshire sheep, a single ram from his flock bringing as high as \$300.00. He is at present the oldest Hampshire breeder in the state of Indiana. Many farmers are interested in the cattle industry and among them are LaOmer Bidwell, George Butler, William Chrysler, James Emerson, Ned Emerson, Ralph Emrick, the late Asa Glasgow, Robert Gonser, Ralph Goodrich, Maynard Holden, Dale Hughes, Wayne Hughes, Burdett Leas, Ralph Leas, Von Milleman, William Milleman, Dale Parr, Verl and Raymond Pike, V. E. Shumaker, Max Smathers, and Bion Young. Some pigs are raised in the township and found on the farms of James Getts, Harold Hovarter, Lawrence Milleman, Von Milleman, Dale Parr, Earl Ringler, and Mervin Tilbury. Several Salem Township families keep horses and ponies for riding purposes. The families of Harold Christoffel, Robert Dailey, and Robert Greenman belong to the Pokagon Saddle Club. Other horse owners are Dale Alleshouse,

Robert Boots, James Emerson, and William Milleman.

Ora Butler owns and operates the Butler Apple Orchard, one mile west of Salem on Highway 327. He is one of the outstanding orchard men in Indiana and has made an extensive study of trees. When Ora's grandfather, Jesse Butler, came to Salem Township in 1838, he made the following comment: "We stopped at Jackson Prairie but there were no trees, so we headed southward, and when we came to a place where the trees touched the sky, we stopped. It was Salem Township." Ora Butler's neighbors pay him a great tribute when they say, "Ora is never too busy to share his vast knowledge of trees with his friends and fellowmen."

Several woods of maple trees are found in Salem Township, and Vern Weicht still operates the maple sugar camp located on his farm, one-half mile south of Salem. Approximately eighty to one hundred gallons of maple syrup are made each season, and it sells for \$5.00 per gallon. This camp has been in use for eighty years since Vern's maternal grandfather, Benjamin Silvey (1834-1914) started it. The equipment was made of wood, and very crude. The syrup sold for 50¢ a gallon.

A saw mill one-half mile south and one-half mile west of Salem in section 16 is operated by Grover Cool and his son John. Frank Cool was in partnership with his brother Grover until his death in 1952. Many farmers in the township have depended on this saw mill to prepare their native lumber for building purposes. The Cool Brothers also operated several threshing machines in the community, before the combines were put into use. A repair shop in Salem was also operated by Grover and Frank Cool. James (1853-1930) and Mary (1854-1932) Cool came to Salem Township in 1902 and bought the farm in section 16 which is still in the Cool family. Their children were Cyrus, deceased, Grover (1884-), Ira (1885-1951), and Frank (1887-1952).

Wild life is abundant in Salem Township, and history seems to be repeating itself, with the reappearance of fox and deer. In recent weeks deer have been sighted on several farms. Foxes are becoming too plentiful and destructive, and "Fox Hunts" have been organized in the winter months for the purpose of lessening the number of these destructive intruders.

### Early Settlers

The first entry of land in Salem Township was made August 16, 1835, by Caleb Hopkins, who entered the west half of the southeast quarter of section 3. This land is now owned by Robert Boots. Mr. and Mrs. Boots and four sons, Allan, Vance, Russell, and Eric, reside on this farm and enjoy the comforts of a modern rural home.

A few months later Richard Knott entered land and remained, being the first permanent settler in the township.

During the next three years a number of settlers came in, among them were David Wisel, Jr., Elder Joseph Locke, David Wisel, Sr., Otis Wisel, Edward T. Hammond, Eli Teal, John Wilson, John Bodley, Benjamin Murphy, Avery Emerson, C. C. Bodley, A. Hollister, Ed. Teal, George Brown, Daniel Butler, Jesse Butler, Loren Butler, M. Henry, Elias Hughes, E. Crusan, C. Lobdell, Peter and Angus McKinlay, E. Griswold, B. Sherwin, G. Griswold, Isaac P. Murphy, P. Bundy, David Butler, J. Stone, and C. Stone.

A number of these early settlers are never referred to again, so it is probably true that they journeyed on westward or returned to their former homes. Those that remained in the township have laid the foundation for the life that we now enjoy. It has been my aim to bind us closer to these pioneer people, by relating the experiences they shared and the hardships they endured.

On August 4, 1836, Mr. and Mrs. David Wisel, Jr., left their home in Franklin County, Massachusetts, and started for a home in the west. They traveled by stage, canal, and steamboat to Cleveland, Ohio. There they were joined by Elder Joseph Locke and his family from Cattaraugus County, New York. Mrs. David Wisel's maiden name was Jerusha Bent and Mrs. Joseph Locke, her sister, was Lydia Bent.

From Ohio they pursued their western journey by covered wagon, as there were no railroads to accommodate the travelers. Progress was very slow over the new muddy roads and it took the small group of settlers three weeks to arrive in Steuben County, Indiana. They stopped on the border of Township 36. There they found a board shanty, open on the south side, which belonged to Robert Bell of Ohio, who had not yet moved in. In this shanty they took shelter until Mr. Locke and Mr. Wisel could look up their land.

Mr. Locke and Mr. Wisel hunted out their land, located at what is now Salem Center in sections 9, 10, and 15. They cut a wagon road through to their destined homes and prepared to build their cabins. But first their land must be secured, so Mr. Wisel took a pack on his back and started for the land office at Fort Wayne. He had to follow an Indian trail, as there were no roads yet opened through the wilderness, and the streams were unbridged. Mr. Wisel told of coming to a muddy stream at nightfall. He had to ford the stream, going down to his shoulders. When he reached the opposite bank he had some difficulty in finding his path. After wandering until nine o'clock, cold and wet, he espied a little log cabin where eight or ten other travelers had stopped for the night. The kind host gave him the privilege of lying before the fire overnight, for which Mr. Wisel was very grateful.

Before Elder Joseph Locke and David Wisel, Jr., had their cabins completed in sections 9 and 15, they were joined by David's brother, Otis, and their father, David Wisel, Sr.

Mrs. Jerusha Wisel, the wife of David, Jr., has played an important part in the history of Salem Township. In the spring of 1837 the township was organized and the election for town officers was held in the home of David Wisel, Jr. There were twelve votes cast. Prior to this time the settlement was called Wiselberg. It was Aunt Jerusha, as she was affectionately called, who gave the name Salem to our township. When a name was being discussed Aunt Jerusha said, "This is such a quiet, peaceful little community; let's name the township Salem, because Salem means peace." And so since 1837 our township has been called Salem. In the year 1848 or 1849 a mail route was opened through Salem from Auburn to Orland. Mr. Hall carried the mail, and David Wisel, Jr. was the Postmaster at Salem. The first post office was in the Wisel Home and Aunt Jerusha made a reed basket that held the mail. The first settler women brought with them the art of basket making, and there are several baskets still in the community that Aunt Jerusha and several other ladies had made.

Mr. Locke and Mr. Wisel brought their cattle with them, and bells were fastened around the cows' necks and they were turned into the woods to hunt for their living. They needed close watching, lest they wander away. Cow bells belonging



to the various settlers were given varied tones so that each man could tell the location of his cattle by the sound of the bell. This was done by size and shape of the bell, or the length and size of the clapper.

In 1854, a Salem Township man stole a bell and strap from a cow's neck in DeKalb County. He was arrested, and Orson Woodford and Samuel VanPelt signed their names to the \$500 bond. On July 14, 1855, the case was heard but the defendant did not appear and could not be found. Justice of the Peace, Alexander VanClear, ordered that the defendant and Bail pay all costs in the case. There were twelve jurymen and among them were David Hughes, Ed. Teal, Orson Woodford, Samuel VanPelt, and David Dennison. Among the defense witnesses were Ben Chilson, Aaron Parsell, John Ritter, and Augustus Story. The state also had six witnesses. Cost of the case included:

Jurymen fees 50c each	\$ 6.00
Witness fees 50c each	6.00
Constable Wm. Sherrow's cost	4.36
Constable N. Ruthman	1.00
Justice costs	1.25
	<hr/>
	18.61

Mr. Wisel, Sr. and his sons were busily engaged in getting the roofs on their houses as it looked like rain. Phoebe Wisel, the daughter of David, Sr., and Mrs. Locke and her son Joseph, aged eleven, started to hunt the cows. They found them a mile and a half east of home, which would be east of Salem in the vicinity of Trinity Church. After getting the cattle collected they did not know which way to start home. They all hallooed and yelled until the men on the roof heard them and answered back. The women called again and the wolves set up a hideous howl on all sides of them. Fearing the wolves had attacked the small group, the men called again but got no answer. Phoebe, Mrs. Locke, and Joseph climbed up in a tree out of reach of the wolves, and the cattle gathered round the tree, shaking their bells at the intruders. The men hunted and hunted into the night but with no results. Otis and his brother, Ira Wisel, got John Wilson and Charles Bodley to help in the search. Mr. Bodley was a great hunter and when the women heard him fire his gun, they ventured to answer. Shortly, they were found and led out to the log cabin home of Mr.

Wilson. Mrs. Wilson prepared refreshments, and the women rested there until morning.

The first year after the pioneers had settled in Salem Township, they had to go to Lima for mail and to Pretty Prairie for provisions. So many settlers moved into this country the first two years that it caused produce to be very high. Before the first crops were harvested it was difficult to get wheat at any price, and for a few weeks the families had to live on rice and hominy. Sick wheat was brought in from Ohio and sold to the hungry settlers for good grain, but even a hungry dog would be too sick after eating his first meal of it, to accept the second biscuit.

Mr. and Mrs. Wisel Jr., Mrs. David Wisel Sr., and a nephew, Jonathan Wisel, youngest son of Ira Wisel, who died in the army, left Steuben County and moved to Fillmore County, Minnesota, for the purpose of building a sawmill. It was two years later that the entire family was thrown into a flooding stream, and their house was demolished and floated downstream. The body of David Wisel Jr. was found later as were the bodies of his mother, Julie Reed Wisel, and his nephew Jonathan. Only five people accompanied the bodies to the silent grave in Minnesota and Aunt Jerusha Wisel was one of them. After this harrowing experience she returned to Salem Township to the home of her nephew, Joel Locke. After the death of Elder Joseph Locke, Mrs. Locke made her home with her son Joel and family. An addition was built on the log house and here Mrs. Locke and her sister, Jerusha, resided. Mrs. Locke was a weaver and she spent many hours at her loom. In 1893, Aunt Jerusha died at the home of her nephew, Joel Locke, who lived on the farm, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ross Courtright. Before Aunt Jerusha's death she gave Ross Courtright her Bible that went through the flood. It is yellow with age, but treasured by the family for the memories it holds.

To have been the second white baby born in Salem Township, Steuben County, was indeed a great honor, and this distinction belonged to Daniel Wisel, born on March 9, 1838, to Otis and Betsy Van Pelt Wisel, who lived in a log cabin, one-half mile north of Salem where the Harold Lochamire house now stands. Uncle Daniel, as he was called by all who knew him, died in 1940, at the age of one hundred and one years and nine months.

The Potawatomi Indians were still living in

Salem Township when Uncle Dan Wisel was a child, and he has related several stories about them that are of keen interest to us all. I shall give them in the exact words of Uncle Dan: "When I was born there were no roads, no nothing, but lots and lots of Indians. We lived a half mile north of Salem Center on the east side of the road, and there was a large Indian trail that went right through our dooryard. It went northwest over where Mongo is, and I don't know where it went from there. Many Indians came to our house and it seemed our house was full of them half the time. They would stop and ask my mother for bread, but we needed bread just about as badly as the Indians did. One day there was an old squaw came to our house and she had her little papoose with her, just about my size. I was eyeing him and he was eyeing me, both of us little fellows. I guess the old squaw noticed us for she wanted mother to trade babies. But didn't I get to mother and beg her not to trade me off.

"The Indians set a time to clean out all the white folks, so that night my mother took me and my brother, he was two years older, and some blankets and quilts out in the middle of the cornfield, and she hid us in the corn shocks and we stayed there. Mother said that she heard five or six squads of Indians on the trail that night, but they didn't make a break. They didn't disturb anyone. I was one or two years old at the time.

"When the Indians left Salem Township and Steuben County, the trail was thick with them for four or five days. The last squad had been gone ten or fifteen minutes when two big Indians came along perfectly stark naked and there was never an Indian on the trail again for this was the closing of the trail."

The regular emigration of these poor unfortunate Indians, about one thousand in number, was a pitiful sight. Another eye witness describes the departure of this tribe in these words: "It was a sad and mournful spectacle to witness these children of the forest slowly retiring from the home of their childhood, that contained not only the graves of their revered ancestors but also many endearing scenes, to which their memories would ever recur as they were bidding farewell to the hills, valleys, and streams of their infancy, the more exciting hunting grounds of their advanced youth as well as the stern and bloody battlefields where they had contended in riper

manhood, on which they had received wounds and where many of their friends and loved relatives had fallen, covered with gore and with glory. All these they were leaving behind them to be desecrated by the plowshare of the white man. As they cast mournful glances back toward these loved scenes that were rapidly fading in the distance, tears fell from the cheek of the downcast warrior, old men trembled, matrons wept, the swarthy maiden's cheek turned pale, and sighs and half suppressed sobs escaped from the motley group, as they passed along, some on foot, some on horseback, and others in wagons—sad as a funeral procession." And thus, the Indians left our township, leaving the land they loved, that our forefathers might establish homes and pass on to us the great heritage that we have.

Mr. Wisel also related the story of how his father, Otis Wisel, would drive his team of oxen to Fort Wayne after salt, flour, and groceries. One time when he was gone on this three or four day trip, the Indians became noisy and loud when darkness fell and kept running up and down the trail. Mrs. Wisel became so frightened that she took her boys, Daniel and Otis Jr., and, making a hole in a large fodder shock in the back yard, she spent the night there.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Wisel later bought 160 acres south of Salem Center, in section 22, and after his death the land was divided among his children, Daniel, George, and Elizabeth. A son, Otis Jr., passed away in 1906.

The Wisel family can be proud of the place that they fill in the history of Salem Township. There are only a few seven generation families in the township, and the Wisels are one of them.

David Wisel Sr. (1777-1843)

Otis Bent Wisel (1810-1906)

Daniel Wisel (1837-1940)

Elmer Wisel (1867-1941)

Ellis Wisel (1895- )

Daniel A. Wisel (1920- )

Daniel Leroy Wisel (1944- )

Strange as it may seem, Daniel A. Wisel owns and operates a portion of the original plot belonging to Otis B. Wisel. He lives in the newly remodelled home with his wife, Norma Coney Wisel, and three children, Loretta, Leroy, and Rickie.

Early in the year 1837 Elder Locke, who settled in section 15 where Vern Weicht lives, organized



a Christian Church of nine members, and for the first years held Sunday School at his house. Nancy Locke, age fourteen, died November 22, 1837, and the following summer, in one week, Elder Locke buried his two youngest children, Ezra and Lydia. Those three were the first white settlers buried in the Hollister graveyard. This cemetery is across the road from the pleasant farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Klink in section 11. Mr. A. Hollister gave the land for this burial ground, and it has always carried the name of Hollister.

Mr. Locke, hearing that salt was brought in from Fort Wayne, started for some. He had to pay \$10.00 for a barrel of salt, and a dollar and a half for the night's lodging. A great number of cows died the first spring because they did not have suitable food and shelter.

Joel Locke, the son of Elder Joseph Locke, married Betsy Call, and lived one mile west of Salem Center on the farm now owned by his grandson, Ross Courtright. In 1854, Joel Locke embraced the truth of the third angel's message at Salem Center, under the preaching of Elder Joseph Bates. Both Mr. and Mrs. Locke remained faithful members of the Seventh Day Adventist Church and, like his father, Joel preached for many years.

The Locke family is another seven generation family that has made Salem Township their home. Richard Lee Courtright, 1933, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Courtright and is serving in the United States Armed Forces at the present time. Other descendants of Elder Joseph Locke living in the township are Mrs. Geraldine Courtright Lepley, Mrs. May Courtright Hall, Mrs. Lillie Courtright Whyson, Mrs. Byrdena Alleshouse Boots, Mrs. Delia Parker McLain, Mr. Robert Greenman, Mr. Dale Alleshouse, Roger Boots, and Chester Boots.

The immigrant Eli Teal entered land in 1836, in section 9. He returned to Ohio to marry Sarah Teal, and brought his young bride back into the wilderness of Salem Township. He drove the team and brought the first load of goods from Fort Wayne. He also brought two Negro slaves, but, living in a community of abolitionists, it was necessary that he free them. In the autumn of 1837, he built the first frame house in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Teal had four children, but three died in infancy. Mrs. Elizabeth Richardson, who lived one half mile west of Salem, was the sole survivor. Mrs. Zella Ripey Barto now owns and lives on the farm of Mrs. Richardson.

At the time of Mr. Teal's death, he was the only man in Steuben County that died on the land he entered from the government. This land is now owned by William G. Milleman, who has restored the original Teal house into a pleasant modern home.

Ed Teal (1807-1880) came to Salem Township at the same time as Eli. He married Sarah Stevenson. Before Steuben County was organized, Ed Teal started a Methodist Class at Crusan's Corners in Salem Township.

Ed H. Hammond (1805-1875) came to Salem Township in 1836 with the Teal brothers, and entered land in section 4. Mr. Hammond cleared his land and at the same time worked with Mr. Teal at the blacksmith trade. They were the first blacksmiths in Salem Township.

On the third of October, 1836, John Wilson, and Charles and John Bodley came to Salem Township. Very soon after their arrival on October 3, 1836, Mr. and Mrs. John Bodley became the parents of a son whom they called William. He was the first white child born in the township. The John Bodley family did not stay very long in Salem Township, but travelled on westward where William Bodley died at the age of fifteen.

During the summer and fall of 1858, chills and fever, dysentery, and ague, prevailed until there were not enough well people to take care of the sick or properly care for their dead. One early settler came with his family and was put up with John Bodley until he could erect a log cabin. Before the cabin was completed, the man became ill and died. Charles Bodley and David Wisel Jr. made the coffin, and when they took it to John Bodley's, they found the dead man's son dying. There were not enough men to bury the father, so they sent word around for all who were able, to come the next afternoon, and help with the burial. Mr. Bodley and Mr. Wisel made a coffin for the son, and the next day they managed to get the two men buried. The widow returned to her former home.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bodley were among the first settlers and built a log house in section 16 across the road from where Mervin Tilbury lives at the present. This cabin was built by a spring and was the first house built in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Bodley had ten children, but none are living in the township. He was a teacher, carpenter, and farmer. They belonged to the Adventist Church.

Thus came the early settlers to Salem Township. They cleared the land, established homes, built schools and churches, and started the rural community that we enjoy today.

### Butler Corners

Among the first settlers that journeyed westward to Salem Township were three Butler brothers; namely, Jesse, Daniel, and Loren Butler, sons of Benjamin Butler, who died in 1831.

An interesting account has been recorded of the Butler brothers' trip to Indiana. During the spring of 1838 they sold their home in North Island, Grand Isle County, Vermont, and with the family of Isaac Prentice traveled by canal boat and lake vessel to Toledo, Ohio. Here they remained a week while Daniel bought two yoke of oxen and several cows. A good two horse wagon provided with a large long rack was covered with canvas, and made what was then called the "Prairie Schooner." Into this rack all the household goods of three families were placed. The children, who were too small to walk, were placed in the wagon also, and enough room was allowed for the women to climb in when they became too tired to walk.

Thus arranged, when ready, two yoke of oxen were hitched on, and the Prairie Schooner with its precious cargo started for its Indiana home up the Toledo and Chicago Pike. On and on, day after day, with ox-like speed came the pioneers. They passed through Coldwater, from there to Bronson, then turning south, they came through Orland. Eight or ten log houses, one frame building, and a hotel made up the village of Orland. It was July 4, 1838, when the Butlers came to Orland, and there were a hundred or more men, women, and children, with anvils, flint lock guns, and "horse pistols" celebrating the holiday.

Loren Butler started the same day from North Island with a good span of horses, and coming a shorter route, he reached Jackson Prairie some ten days earlier. The Butler families stayed two or three days with Adolphus Town, and then moved into a vacant blacksmith shop. Here they remained until the first of September. They had decided they did not want to settle on the prairie because they wanted trees. So Jesse, Daniel, and Loren, bought a tract of land from Benjamin Murphy in sections 6-8 in Salem Township. The Murphys occupied the log house built on the side hill, forty rods west of the Butler Four Corners. All

these three Butler families and the Prentiss family moved into the log house with the Murphys, making twenty-eight persons.

In a few weeks all came down with fever, ague, and malarial fever. Some shook every day and others only every other day. All the neighbors were shaking just the same, so the settlers had the satisfaction of knowing that the ague was no respecter of persons. The malarial condition continued for four or five years with some occasional intermissions.

In about eight weeks the Murphy family moved out of the hive, and in the spring the Prentiss family moved to Ohio.

Loren Butler, whose wife was Malita Town, built a small frame house on the northwest corner of the Butler Corners. They had no children. Loren Butler died in 1849, and his wife died in 1892.

Jesse Butler established Butler Corners, for it was he who paced the distance of one and one-half miles from the Block Church Corner. In later years when the land was surveyed, it was found to be just a few feet short of the one and one-half miles; and some apple trees, planted by Daniel Butler, were in the road and had to be removed.

Jesse Butler, whose wife was Fanny Stephens, built a log house on the southeast corner of Butler Corners, near the house where the Benjamin Hayward family resided in later years. Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Butler were the parents of four children: Seymour S., Mary Jane, James W., and Perthenia, who died in 1888.

Seymour S. Butler (1832-1882) married Albina L. Conger (1837-1916). They had eight children: Roelif, Loren, Ora, Fred, and four who died in infancy.

Six generations of the Jesse Butler family have resided in Salem Township.

Jesse Butler (     -1874)  
Seymour S. Butler (1832-1882)  
Roelif Butler (1860-     )  
Dale Butler (1894-1949)  
Anna Rose Butler Eckert (1920-     )  
Jerry W. Eckert (1946-     )

Aunt Albina Butler, as she was called by all who knew her, possessed a character of great determination and will power. For a period of years she kept a diary of all family and community events. This diary consists of several volumes and is in the home of her sons. I was pleased to have



the opportunity to read through it. Its pages contain the thoughts and workings of a pioneer mother, and in no way could these writings be replaced.

Nearly every day baking was done, usually from six to twelve pies, two cakes, bread, cookies, rusk, and cinnamon rolls. Each spring the rag carpets were taken up, ripped apart, washed, and then sewed together, and put down. After the threshing was finished, the straw ticks were refilled. The flock of geese was picked often, and new pillows were made for neighbors, friends, and family. Water was poured on the leach a few days before the soap making. When the day came, a large iron kettle of soft soap was made outside. When the apples were harvested, large kettles of apple butter were made, many apples dried and sold, to help pay taxes and buy winter clothing. The cane was taken to South Milford to be made into sorghum.

The social activities of sixty years ago were both entertaining and constructive. Aunt Albina's life was full of pleasures and happiness shared by neighbors and friends. Often she speaks of driving the old horse, Topsy, through mud, snow, and dust, to visit friends. Nearly every Sunday they drove to church services at the Block Church. Tent meetings at Morgan School, Church at East Trinity, Sunday School in Gillespie School, were all attended by the Butler family. Mention is made of Mr. West preaching in 1896 at the Block Church. An Indian Medicine Show, (1897), Literary and Musical Program at the Burg (Salem) in 1897, Barn Raising at Erdley McLains (1898), a sing at George Parkers (1898), Soldier's Picnic in La Dow's woods (1898), Husking Bee for Dell Wood (1898), Magic Lantern Show at the Burg (1898), all added variety, amusement, and enjoyment, to the community's social life.

In January 1897, the thermometer went down to 24 degrees below zero, and Aunt Albina states it would have gone farther but the thermometer was too short.

Hospitals were a luxury not to be enjoyed by our pioneer ancestors. The older women administered to the needs of the sick, and the men shared the hours of "sitting up" with the patients. The Butler boys, Roelif, Loren, and Ora, often assisted in the homes where sickness and death had entered. After a death occurred, the church bell at Salem was tolled as many times as the deceased person was years old.

One of the Butler boys would walk to the Burg in the evening to get the mail and groceries. In 1901 eggs were sold for 8c a dozen. Brown flour was 12 lb. for 25c, white flour was 25 lb. for 55c. Hogs brought 6c a pound. Money was scarce, but life was filled with a hope and determination to overcome the hardships that existed.

Flem Bodley remembers many experiences of the early days in Salem Township as he helped clear the land on his grandfather's farm. On Saturday and Sunday nights the young men would walk six to ten miles to see the girl of their choice. Flem remembers how his sister, Gertie, walked from the family home where Erma Butler maintains a home, to within a mile of Hudson, a total of twelve miles, for the purpose of signing for a teaching job. Indians were numerous in the vicinity where the Bodleys lived, and were friendly and kind. They would often gather berries for their white neighbors in exchange for bread and cake. Back of Sam Greeno's farm home was the first Indian corn field that was cleared by the red men. Farmers in these sections have found many Indian relics. Flem recalls hearing his grandfather tell about a white settler who stole a deer that the Indians had hung up to butcher. The Indians were so infuriated that the white settler had to leave the township.

Daniel Butler, son of Benjamin Butler, married Mary Prentiss. This pioneer family had five children. One daughter, Susan, married Robert Bell, who built the cabin where the Wisels and Lockes took shelter when they arrived in Salem Township. Robert Bell settled on the farm now owned by Oakley Amerman in section 4. His daughter Susie married Henry Weaver, whose parents settled in Salem Township, west of Butler Corners on the farm which has been occupied by the Al Warstler family for over forty years. About 1887, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Weaver moved to Salem Center where he operated a Barber shop until 1929.

It was in the home of Robert Bell that a class of the M. E. Church was organized in 1838. The first members of that class were: Robert Bell and wife, Susan; Edward T. Hammond and wife; Mrs. Mary Butler, and probably a few others. Services were held at private homes for some time, and later at the log school house in section 4.

After the death of Daniel Butler, the sons, Henry P. and Marvin, came in possession of the farm on the southwest corner of Butler Corners.

Across the road on the east side was a sawmill operated by the Butlers in about 1870. South of where the barn now stands was a sorghum and cider mill. Newton Bodley was an active helper in these mills.

The Butler families were faithful church people and Sunday after Sunday, in the Block Church, Uncle Newton Bodley would offer this prayer which was kept by John Parsell and given to this chapter by Florence Parsell Covell.

"God grant that the young folks of Salem and all the region 'round about shall grow up to be a people, zealous of good work and whose God is the Lord."

#### **Underground Railroad in Salem Township**

When Salem Township was very young and before the Civil War, an Underground Railroad Station was established in section 8 at the home of Henry and Marvin Butler, who were sons of the pioneer, Daniel Butler. This land is now owned by Dr. O. W. Hildebrand of Topeka, Ind., and occupied by the family of the late Clarence Milleman. The present frame house is the one used for the run-away slaves. The construction of the upstairs was such that escape was possible from any part.

To the younger generation it may be necessary to explain what is meant by the "underground railroad." The Southern states claimed the right under the United States Constitution to keep and hold slaves. The mass of citizens living in the northern states were opposed to slavery, and were called abolitionists. The true abolitionist, wherever found, was ready at all times to aid the colored slaves in escaping from their southern masters, to Canada, where at once they would become free. In order to assist the slaves in making a safe getaway, it was considered best to transport the colored people by night as much as possible, in order that they would not be seen. During the day they were concealed in some abolitionist's house or barn, and when darkness came, the fleeing slaves would be placed in a covered rig or carefully tucked under a load of straw, and as quickly as possible they would be taken to the next station. The people who assisted the slaves were known as "conductors," and the homes where they were concealed were called "stations." Any one of the neighboring families of the Butler family would have aided the slaves. John Parsell purchased this farm from Henry Butler. For many

years he was active in the progress of the township. After moving to Angola, he still maintained his interests in the growth of Salem township.

Mr. Marvin Butler (1834-1914) lived most of his life in Salem Township, and was the author of the book, "My Story of the Civil War and the Underground Railroad."

Six generations of this Butler family have been closely associated with Salem Township.

Daniel Butler ( -1847)  
 Marvin Butler (1834-1914)  
 Benjamin Butler (1868-1915)  
 Florence Butler Jones (1898- )  
 Edward Jones (1929- )  
 Jimm Edward Jones (1953- )

#### **The Village of Salem Center**

Within Salem Township are three small villages: Hudson, Helmer, and Salem. Of these three Salem is the oldest and the smallest. In this year, 1954, only twenty-two families live in Salem, and they make up a population of about sixty-five persons.

Salem has long been called the "Burg" by the villagers and surrounding farmers. Because the Wisels settled at this place in 1836, it was called Wiselberg. When the name Salem was chosen in 1837, the name Wiselberg no longer applied, but it seems that the word "Burg" was never forgotten and has been used by many down through the years.

In 1843 William Austin built a huge log building on the site of the present brick buildings, in which he and Edward Wright opened the first store. This store changed owners several times, and at times there would be no place for trade. Adolphus Gale and W. W. Braden were among the owners of the store. Dr. J. C. Kimsey bought the building and used the timbers for fuel. He sold the lot to Mr. James Richards, who built thereon a frame building, the first story being used for shop, and the second story by the Masonic Fraternity. About 1862, E. T. Hammond and Casper Congers bought this building and fitted it for a store. Later it was bought by John Carey, Sr., who carried on a mercantile business for several years. In 1871 it was burned, but Mr. Carey rebuilt on the same lot and sold to F. J. Warner who sold it to Hammond, Dole, and Stevenson, who in turn sold to Henry Amerman, and he moved the stock to Stroh. Frank Dole then occupied the building until it burned in 1896. He



had an arrangement in the back of his store where the farmers could bring their wheat and exchange it for flour. Dr. J. C. Kimsey's residence, which stood north of the present brick building, and Dr. M. T. Clay's residence and drug store, which stood south of the present brick building, were burned at the same time.

After the fire, the Odd Fellows built the north half of the present brick block, the lower room being used by various parties for mercantile business. The Knights of Pythias built the upper part of the south half of the block, and L. D. Munger the lower story. Mr. Munger sold his interest to William Kimsey, who added to the structure, and with Thomas R. Marshall, was in the mercantile business.

Thomas R. Marshall was not active in the operation of the Kimsey-Marshall store, as he practiced law and later became Governor of Indiana. He was Vice President of the United States during the administration of Woodrow Wilson. Mr. Marshall married Lois Kimsey, the daughter of W. E. Kimsey. They were married in the house now occupied by the William Van Pelt family, which was the Kimsey home at that time. Mr. Kimsey operated a store in the south part, which has stood vacant for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall never resided in Salem.

A wagon shop was built by Amos Kirkwood on the northeast corner of the village, and he carried on a business there for several years. The Masonic Fraternity bought this building and used the upper room for lodge purposes. The Masons sold the building to Richardson and Teal, who opened therein the first hardware store in the village. In 1882 David Haskins purchased the hardware, and carried on the business for some time. A smaller building stood east of this hardware store and was used as a grocery and ice cream parlor.

Many names are associated with the mercantile business of Salem village. Some of them are: M. B. Butler, Theodore Hopkins, Dan Tritch, Sam and I. S. Parsell, Dell Stevenson, Fred Spears, Orla Parker, Tom Parker, Will Haskins, John Greeno, William Lepley, Abijah Emerson, William Amerman, Frank and Lou Dole, Henry Oberlin, John Somerlott, Lyle Shank, Art Grabill, Charlie Brown, Loyce Whysong, and probably many more.

In 1885, the business of Salem Center was represented

by the following firms: William E. Kimsey, general merchant; Hammond, Dole, and Co., general merchants; David Haskins, hardware and groceries; M. T. Clay, druggist; J. C. Kimsey, druggist; M. T. Clay, physician; M. Barnes, blacksmith; Haskins and Green, blacksmiths.

The Kimsey family were long time merchants in the village. W. E. Kimsey owned the farm just east of Salem. The large spacious house was one of the largest and most luxurious in the township. Mr. Kimsey, a lover of trees, had his home surrounded by orchards: cherry, pear, peach, and apple. For many years people came from near and far to buy fruit. He was also a bee fancier, and had many hives of bees among his orchards. Wallace Kimsey was associated with his father in the mercantile business and finally became sole owner of the store. Wallace left Salem in 1920 and went to Arizona to join his parents who had moved there previously, for health reasons. Wallace died in 1932. Lois Kimsey Marshall is still living and resides in Phoenix, Arizona, at the Westward-Ho Hotel. Morton Kimsey and family reside in Scottsdale, Arizona. Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Kimsey died some years ago and are buried in the Angola cemetery.

The Kimsey farm passed through several transactions, and in 1948 it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baillie of Auburn.

Of the many merchants who maintained a business in Salem Center during the years of its existence, George Mills deserves the honor and praise of the entire community for his endless years of patient toil and faithfulness to his fellow men. George was employed in the brick store by the Kimseys, and when it was sold to Fred Spears in 1920, he remained. In a few years he became the sole owner and continued the business until 1948, at which time he was forced to quit because of his health, and during that summer he passed away.

After the death of George Mills the store passed through several transactions, and was finally closed. Mr. Lint of Shipshewana was the last owner. The store building which comprises the south half of the brick building was sold to Mr. C. W. Chadwick of Pleasant Lake. In 1954 he sold it to Mr. Steve Rotter of Chicago.

On the southwest corner of Salem, Hogan and VanPelt engaged in business, probably in the 1850's or 1860's. There were two buildings, a gro-

cery and a blacksmith shop. Jesse Miller was the first blacksmith in the village. Marcus Barnes, father of Maude Mills, had a blacksmith shop on the southwest corner for some years. One of the last blacksmiths in Salem was Homer LaDow, who used the southwest corner shop for a time, and later built his own shop north of Salem near the LaDow home. Russell Wood used this shop for a time before moving to Mongo. Then a Miller carried on the business, and he was probably the last blacksmith in Salem village. Homer LaDow resides in Salem at the present time with his two aged sisters.

Mark (1811-1901) and Margaret (1814-1887) LaDow came to Salem Township in 1845 and settled in section 2, in the vicinity of where James Emerson now lives. Here they lived twelve years and suffered all the hardships inseparable from pioneer life, not the least of which was the persecution by the Spiritualists, who were at that time numerous in eastern LaGrange County, and who persecuted Mrs. LaDow for her fearless denunciation of their teachings. In 1863 they returned to settle on the farm in sections 9 and 10, which they owned for many years. Frank LaDow, their son, (1844-1917) served for two years in the Civil War. Since 1863 the LaDow family has lived in Salem. They have administered much to the community in helping care for the sick and lending a helping hand wherever needed. The home of Nancy and Frank LaDow was always open to anyone who desired food or lodging. Mrs. LaDow was always sharing her beautiful flowers, her comfortable home and pleasant surroundings with her neighbors and friends. Janeth, wife of David Ryder, is the fifth generation of the LaDow family.

Through the years, Salem was the home of several physicians who cared for the sick in the community. Mention is made of Dr. Bevier, who came in 1848 as the first doctor. Dr. A. G. Parsell was the second and then came J. C. Kimsey in 1855. Among later physicians were Dr. McHenry, Dr. L. C. Crossman, Dr. M. T. Clay, Dr. Harley Cunningham, Dr. Whitmarsh, Dr. Emay Sherrow, Dr. Burdette Goodale, Dr. Firestone, and probably others.

One of the early business enterprises in Salem was an ashery built by Austin and Wright at an early date. This ashery stood on the northeast corner of Salem, back from the road a distance on what is now the Fred Shull farm. Trees and

brush were burned and the ashes were leached to obtain lye. The lye was boiled down to a black salt which was sent away and made into potash. Saleratus or baking soda was also a product of the ashery.

Another industry in Salem was a pottery owned by Elder Ball. Brown earthenware crocks, pitchers, etc., were made, the clay being formed around a wooden mold and then baked and dipped in some liquid to give them a glaze or vitrified surface.

Directly south of William VanPelt's house in Salem was a small building where Henry Weaver maintained a barber shop and shoe repair shop for many years. He began his work in 1887 and continued until 1929. This building was erected by Dr. Bevier. It was sold to Elder Ball and then Amos Kirkwood for store purposes. It was attached to the house where Wade Strawser now lives and used as a residence at one time. It was later moved out of Salem by Harold Gantt.

One of the first public buildings to be erected in Salem was a log school house, which was built on the northwest corner where the James Rowe family now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Slick, and Aunt Amy Diffenbaugh lived on this same corner. The log school house was built in the autumn of 1841, and was the second one built in the township. The first teacher was Eliza Swink; another teacher was Hiram Lewis, a brother of D. B. Lewis.

The school house was later razed and another log building erected west of the village. The seats consisted of split logs placed around the sides of the room. The desks were rough boards placed on pegs driven into the walls of the room. Steel pens, lead pencils, and tablets were unknown, but quill pens and slates did good service and many became proficient in reading, writing, spelling, and arithmetic. The school often numbered seventy-five, and order was preserved by the old fashioned switch, the older pupils getting the "lickings" while the younger ones were frightened into good behaviour by the scene. The pupils were allowed to use different reading books, such as Sunday School books, Aesop's Fables, etc. The school house provided a place for such gatherings as church and singing schools. Billy Heathe was the singing master, and he taught by rule. William Kimsey remembered the first poetry learned at singing school and it is as follows:



One sharp is the key of G  
Two sharps the key of D, sir,  
Three sharps is the key of A  
And four the key of E, sir.

For lighting the building, candles were placed in boards. At the close of a singing school some one thoughtlessly left a candle burning and the building was set on fire and burned to the ground. In the building was a small Sunday School library which was saved by Dr. Kimsey.

School was then taught for a time in a log building that stood a few rods south of where Russell Jackson operates a garage and grocery. This was the school which Daniel Wisel attended. Eliza Wright was the first teacher.

In 1857 the citizens of the district built the first frame school house on the site of the one that burned, west of the village. The land was leased from Mark LaDow and is owned by Dale Hughes at the present time. Orson Woodford taught in the new building for several years. In 1892 or 1893 the frame structure was abandoned for the new brick building, east of the village. Emmet Wehrly was the last teacher in the frame building, and the first teacher in the new brick school. These first schools were subscription schools, supported by the families who had children. Besides money they furnished the wood. The teachers boarded and roomed with various families as part of their pay. School was in session for three terms, fall, winter, and spring. In 1852 free schools were introduced in Indiana, and school procedures were changed.

After the frame building was no longer used for school purposes, it became the property of Mark LaDow. He traded the building to Rowd Munger for a gray horse. The building was left on the original site, and Mr. Munger and Garrett Amerman made land rollers. These rollers, uniform in size, were about six inches in diameter, and made of hard wood. They were used for moving buildings and heavy objects. The drawing power was furnished with a capstan, which was revolved by oxen or horse power. Mr. Munger sold the building later to Frank Dreher, and it was moved closer into the village and is now owned by Shirley Whysong, where he maintains his residence.

The pupils from the Hollister and Salem School left their one-room frame buildings in 1890 to attend the new brick Salem School, built about

one-fourth of a mile east of the village. This school had one large room and two cloakrooms. Later this school was partitioned into two rooms. The board of education now hired two teachers, one for the first four grades, and one for the advanced grades. Three years of high school were offered, but if one wished to take a fourth year, he had to attend elsewhere. Vern Denison and I. D. Ritter were the first graduates of a three-year high school in 1912. Azell Walker was the principal, and only teacher in the high school. He taught all subjects. From 1909-1911 Vern Knepper was the principal. It was not until 1917 that a four-year course was offered at Salem School.

In 1912 this school was torn down, and a new two and a half story brick building was erected, using the same bricks in the inner walls. The basement had a manual training room, domestic science room, and a library. The first floor had three class rooms and hall. The second floor was an auditorium. The pupils from the Wood, Hickory Grove, and Center School attended this new school. On November 6, 1925, this building burned, and the students were compelled to finish their school term in several different buildings in Salem, which were loaned for the pupils' use. There was some controversy over the location of a new school, but a new one was built one mile south of Salem, which is the center of the township. Oakley Amerman was the trustee when the new building was erected, and although the records state that the building was erected in 1926, it was 1928 before classes were started there.

In 1848 a star mail route was established between Auburn and Orland. Salem Center became a post office on this route. David Wisel, the first postmaster, served till 1853, and the office passed to Walter Braden, who was succeeded three years later by Orson Woodford. The post office was in the Woodford home, which is now occupied by a great-granddaughter, Josephine Parsell. In 1856 Silas Conger was appointed, and after Buchanan's administration, Orson Woodford came in again, assisted by W. E. Kimsey. Silas Conger lived where Vern Weicht now lives, and maintained the post office in his home. Later a star route from Sedan to Flint brought the mail. Then a star route from Helmer to Angola supplied the mail. Mail was brought by horse and carriage one day, and then would return the following day. Two trips were made weekly. Other postmasters were

John Carey, Lewis Dole, John DeWitt, and Marvin Butler.

The rural route was established in 1904. Warren Sprankle (1873-1938) made daily trips to Salem bringing mail from Helmer. Warren Sprankle carried mail for thirty years, beginning in 1904. His wife, Ruth Sprankle, often assisted in carrying the mail. Their daughter Ellen, who married Wayne Hughes, lives north of Salem. Theodore Vaughn made daily trips from Pleasant Lake. After Vaughn's retirement, George Reinoehl carried mail for a few years, followed by Ward Parsell in 1931. James Ferris then was the carrier until 1949 when the Pleasant Lake route was discontinued through Salem. At the present time Salem Township receives mail through LaGrange, Wolcottville, Angola, Pleasant Lake, Hudson, and Helmer rural routes.

On the Fourth of July, a great celebration took place in the village of Salem. People came from far and near to take part in the festivities of the day. One of the earliest celebrations was in 1843 when the families of the vicinity met together and had a big free dinner, serving as a delicacy, a roast pig prepared by Aunt Amy Diffenbaugh. By way of entertainment, a Mr. White sent up a balloon made of newspapers. The cleared space around the village being small, the balloon caught in the top of a nearby tree, bringing disaster to the ascension and causing some, who had given ten cents to help pay the expense of the balloon, to feel somewhat swindled.

In 1847 there was organized a Cornet Band in Salem, which attained great proficiency. They won first prize at a tournament of Steuben County Bands at Angola, July 4, 1863. Their instructors were McCabe, Smith, and Bodley. Some of the first band members were Ira Woodford, William Kimsey, Frank DeWitt, Fred Sanxter, S. W. McHenry, E. C. Herrick, A. K. Hammond, George McHenry, and Irvin Loughrey. In 1885 the members of the band were as follows: Prof. Guy Bodley, Frank R. Tubbs, A. D. Stephenson, A. K. Hammond, Charles Brown, George Parker, Guy Conklin, William Gillespie, F. Dole, G. Elliot, W. E. Kimsey, G. F. Amerman, Frank Woodford, and P. H. Gunsaulus.

Flem Bodley tells the following incident about his brother, Guy, and his first cornet. When Guy was fourteen years old, his parents took him to Angola to buy a cornet. They drove their two-

seated buggy, and for the homeward journey, Guy and his new cornet occupied the back seat. When the family turned in at the Bodley house, Guy was playing "Home, Sweet Home."

McLane Post, No. 342 G.A.R. was mustered May 3, 1884, with the following sixteen charter members: Samuel Parker, D. R. Wisel, Peter Ritter, John DeWitt, Samuel VanPelt, J. C. Kimsey, Thomas Havens, M. B. Butler, Andrew Wolf, Hugh Menaugh, L. N. McLain, G. W. Strauser, William Dewitt, John Haines, D. S. Gillespie, and A. Sams.

At an early date, J. C. Kimsey and Orson Woodford placed a town pump in the center of the village where travelers, as well as citizens of the village, could get a refreshing drink. Above the town pump was built a band stand where the band could practice and give concerts. The town pump always seemed an essential part of the village, for nearly every family depended on this pump for their drinking water. As traffic increased through the village, it seemed advisable to move the pump from the center to a safer place, so in the early 1930's it was removed to the northeast corner, where it still provides water for those who need it.

We are proud to say that Salem has never contained a saloon or tavern, and may the future generations help keep the standards set before us by our forefathers.

Salem has one church, located in the north part of the village. This church was erected in 1868 at a cost of \$3,000 by the Methodists, on a lot donated by Dr. J. C. Kimsey. The Methodist Church withdrew in the late 1920's and the Presbyterians purchased the building and after redecorating it, have held services there. A few years later they purchased the north half of the brick store building from the Angola I.O.O.F. and have used the second story for Sunday School rooms, and the first floor contains a kitchen, dining room, and recreation hall. This hall was dedicated in 1941, and is called Westminster House.

Rev. J. E. Jones is the present pastor of the Presbyterian Church. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jones, who are from Wisconsin, have ministered to the spiritual needs of the community. Their influence has permeated into the lives of many, and the fruits of their labor are manifest in the homes of which they are a part. During his service in the Salem Community, Rev. Jones has officiated at 225 funerals and 86 weddings. All but six of the active



members on the present roll were received into the church by Rev. Jones. Rev. and Mrs. Jones have one daughter, Betty, who is a teacher in the city school of Logansport, Indiana.

In 1902 a telephone exchange office was placed in the home of Ida Woodford, and assisted by her daughter, Ulah, she operated the switchboard for many years, serving the community faithfully and well. Sarah and Jeanette Caris were the next operators and continued until the office was closed in 1918. In 1898 there were only 65 telephones in the county, and they were in Angola. The first telephone company in Salem Township was the Farmer's Mutual and the poles and lines were put up by the farmers. A. E. Emerson had the first telephone in the township. In 1906 the Steuben County Telephone Company took over the operation of the telephone system. Fred Walsh was a lineman at an early date, as was Homer LaDow.

Mary Denny Boots, the wife of Clyde Boots, was the first telephone operator in Steuben County and held that position for seven years. Clyde Boots came to Salem Township in 1898 and lived on the farm now owned by May Hall. In 1913 he married Mary Denny, and their two sons are Robert and Kenyon.

One of the oldest families that lived in Salem was the Woodford family. Orson Woodford (1805-1882) came to Salem Township in 1853. He purchased 80 acres on the southeast corner of the village. His son, George Woodford, had the honor of being the first Salem boy to enlist in the Civil War.

Unah Woodford, who married Benjamin Butler, lived in Salem where Benjamin was associated with his father in the hardware business. He also framed pictures and made novelties, which he sold throughout the county. Belle Woodford married Enos B. Parsell and had one daughter, Josephine, who resides on the farm that has been in the family for a hundred years. John Calvin Woodford was a Civil War Veteran and spent many hours with his comrades recalling war experiences. Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Woodford kept a hotel in their home for many years. Traveling salesmen or drummers, as they were then called, traveled with horse and buggy and could not go far in a day. As there was no place for them to "put up," the Woodfords opened their home to them for many years. Enos B. Parsell taught for several years in the township and Belle Woodford was one of his pupils.

Howard Woodford, one of the descendants of Orson Woodford, was killed in 1945 in Northern Luzon after he led a green guerilla troop against the Japs, singlehandedly wiped out a machine-gun nest, and killed thirty-seven Japs in a Banzai attack. He was found dead at daybreak with the thirty-seven dead Japanese around him.

Today Salem has one store and a garage owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Russell Jackson, who came from Fort Wayne in 1944 with their two children, Billie and Donna Lou. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are active in community affairs and are a great help to the community.

One half mile south of Salem is the very pleasant farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Vern Weicht. This farm belonged to Vern's maternal grandfather, Benjamin Silvey, (1834-1914), who was born in LaGrange County, but at the age of seven came to the Eli Teals' and made his home. Vern Weicht has modernized and improved the homestead until it is one of the nicest country homes in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Weicht are members of the Presbyterian Church and take an active part in the political, religious, and social life of the township.

The Weicht family was a pioneer family in Salem Township. Vern Weicht's grandfather, Fred Weicht (1818-1865), was born in Germany and came to Steuben County with his parents when he was twelve years old. He was a physician by profession and was the first homeopathic doctor in Steuben County.

Five generations of Weichts have associated themselves with Salem Township.

Fred Weicht (1818-1865)  
 Eugene Weicht (1857-1932)  
 Vern Weicht (1889- )  
 June Weicht Sunday (1919- )  
 Larry Sunday (1943- )

Just south of Salem Village, on the farm now owned by Frank Hughes, lived the Van Pelt family. When Samuel Van Pelt II (1798-1873) and his wife, Mary Morrow Van Pelt (1804-1888) came from Cattaraugus County, New York, in 1844, they settled on the northeast corner of section 16, which is in Salem Village. It was Mary Van Pelt who described their settlement in this way, "We went and went and went and stopped at the worst place we could find, and started our home." Samuel and Mary Morrow Van Pelt were

the parents of nine children. Seven generations are represented in this family, all having lived in Salem Township.

Samuel Van Pelt II (1798-1873)  
 William Van Pelt (1829-1881)  
 Elizabeth Van Pelt Nelson (1854-1936)  
 Harriet Nelson Main (1874- )  
 Ethel Main Tritch (1895- )  
 Eva Tritch Shaffer (1919- )  
 Roberta Shaffer (1940- )

Six generations of another branch of this family have lived in Salem Township.

Samuel Van Pelt II (1798-1873)  
 William Van Pelt (1829-1881)  
 Samuel Alva Van Pelt IV (1860-1938)  
 Harvey Van Pelt (1897- )  
 Joyce Van Pelt Lawrence (1928- )  
 Connie Lawrence (1947- )

Still another branch of the family has had six generations living in the township.

Samuel Van Pelt II (1798-1873)  
 William Van Pelt (1829-1881)  
 Mary Van Pelt (1863-1943)  
 Ella Van Pelt Parr (1891- )  
 Elwood Parr (1915- )  
 Gaylord Parr (1941- )

An amusing experience has been related by the passing generation, and it still brings a chuckle to present day listeners. "When the first settlers came to Salem Township, they were intrigued by the amount of money that their Jackson Township neighbors and friends possessed. They finally discovered that counterfeit money was being turned out in Jackson Township. So some Salem men, deciding not to be outdone by Jackson Township, went over there in the night and brought the machine to Salem. It wasn't long until money flowed freely in Salem too, but it was of short duration as the operators of the counterfeit ring became frightened. They took the machine to a field south of Salem, stepped off a distance from a big tree, and buried it deep in the ground. As far as we know, it has never been found."

Sharing the memories of sorrow, happiness, and amusement binds us closer to the experiences of our forefathers, and they serve as a tribute to the little village of Salem.

Little town of Salem  
 You've been a busy place.  
 Time has changed your history,  
 But your memories will ne'er erase.  
 For you stand as a guardian angel  
 O'er the ideals of our people, so dear.  
 And within our hearts we cherish  
 The thoughts you've planted here.

### Block Church Corner

The earliest religious and social life of Salem Township seems to have centered around the Block Church, for it was near this corner where the John Wilson, Robert Bell, Avery Emerson, and several other pioneer families had settled.

John Wilson (1800-1880), who married Dinah Bodley, came to Salem Township to section 3 in 1836. He settled near the Block Church, and remained in the township until his death. There are no descendants living in the township, but Mrs. Opal Gillispie Van Pelt who lives in Jackson Township is a great-granddaughter.

In the spring of 1838, Presbyterian services were held at the house of John Wilson in section 3. A minister by the name of Parmelie conducted the services. The Society was organized at the log cabin of Mr. Wilson in the fall of 1838. The Reverend Royal Littlefield conducted the services on this occasion. The members who composed the first Presbyterian Society were John Wilson and wife, George Brown and wife and son, George Brown Jr., Mrs. Fanny Butler, Mrs. Meleta Butler, Sarah and Catherine McKinlay, and Moses S. Parsell and wife. There were possibly a few other names that have not been obtainable. John Wilson was the only ruling member elected at the time, and served several years. Services were held in the John Wilson home until the fall of 1839. Mr. Wilson, who was a zealous worker in the Presbyterian Church, organized a Sunday School in his home. This was the first Sunday School in the township, and Mr. Wilson was the first Sabbath School Superintendent.

In the fall of 1839 a log school was erected on the northwest corner. It was of a very primitive design. Laura Dryer was the first teacher. (Editor's note: the below is taken verbatim from a contribution in the 1898 Atlas of Steuben County. It was written by Prof. J. W. Wyandt.)

"The first school in Salem Township was taught in 1838 by George Emerson in the house of John



Wilson. In 1839 the first school house was built,—a log cabin on the site now occupied by the Presbyterian Church. George Emerson again taught school in the winter of 1839 and 1840."

In 1841 a church was built on the site of the Block Cemetery. The church was given the name of "Block" because of the way the logs were hewn in block shape. This was undoubtedly the first structure built in Steuben County devoted solely to church services. It was a good-sized substantial structure, thirty by thirty-six feet in size, and in 1860 it was moved to the farm of John Newton Ousterhout, where it served for the home of the Ousterhout family. In 1926, the old building was razed and some of the walnut and white wood blocks were made up into lamps for descendants of the Ousterhout family.

John Newton Ousterhout (1825-1901), with his elder brother, James C., came to Salem Township in 1843 with ox team, and was first married to Nancy Hammond, and their children were Sarah and Samuel. His second marriage was to Sarah Haines (1829-1902). They had six children, Viola, Ralph, Cora, Sarah, Lillie, and Alta. Viola married Adelbert Wood (1854-1921) and had four children: Lena, Russell, Iva, and Hugh.

#### Five Generation Family

John N. Ousterhout (1825-1901)  
 Viola Ousterhout Wood (1855-1927)  
 Russell Wood (1889- )  
 Eleanor Wood Lash (1922- )  
 Leroy Lash (1946- )  
 John Russell Wood ( -1873)  
 Adelbert Wood (1854-1921)  
 Russell Wood (1889- )  
 Hugh Wood (1928- )  
 Michael Wood (1946- )

In 1856 a "Singing House" or community house was built across the road to the south of the Block Cemetery and just west of where Ned Emerson lives at the present time. This was the scene of many a singing school and pioneer concert and amusement center. The Methodists and Presbyterians also held services there for a time. John Wilson taught singing, and John Spero came from Brushy Prairie to teach.

The Methodists built their own church in Salem Center in 1868. At the same time, the Presbyterians joined with the United Brethren in building

the present structure on the northwest corner of Block Church Corners.

Mr. and Mrs. Avery Emerson Jr. deeded the plot of ground for the church. The Presbyterians and United Brethren used the same building which was still called the Block Church. In 1898, the United Brethren erected their own building one and one-half miles north of Block Church corner, and it was called Hopewell.

The Presbyterians continued the use of the Block Church until 1928, when they purchased the Methodist Church in Salem, as the Methodists had discontinued its use. On May 16, 1929, the Block Church was sold to Paul Weicht. He salvaged the useful material and the shell of the building remained until the evening of September 24, 1954, when it was destroyed by fire of unknown origin.

Living near the Block Church Corner are several descendants of the Avery Emerson family.

Avery Emerson Sr. (1788-1864) married Sophronia Allen (1791-1877) and in 1836 they came to Salem Township and settled in section 2 on the land now owned by a great-grandson, James Emerson. In pioneer times this section was known as "Indian Fields." It is said that the marks of corn hills could be plainly seen, indicating that the ground had been cultivated by the Indians. Avery Emerson Sr. was the first justice of the peace of Salem Township and walked six miles to the home of Mr. Wright to perform the marriage ceremony of one of his daughters. From 1841 to 1849 he held the office of probate judge. In 1857 he sold his farm to his son, Luke Allen, and moved to Angola, and later to Kendallville, where he died in 1864. His son, Luke Allen Emerson (1824-1864), married Hettie Jacobus (1835-1914) and their children were Georgiana (1857-1938), Albert Emmons (1859-1942), Rose Eugenia, (1862-1935) and Luke Allen II (1864-1924).

Georgiana Emerson married Henry Herbert (1852-1926) and their children were Florence and Ralph. Florence married Don C. Heffley and they had made their home for many years in Ft. Wayne. They came to Salem Township in 1941 and purchased the farm just east of the Block Cemetery, remodeled it, and gave it the name of "Heffleys' Hills of Home." Mr. Heffley passed away in 1951 and Mrs. Heffley still maintains the home and farm.

Albert Emmons Emerson married Jessie Mans-

field (1865-1947) and their children were Margaret, Louise, Allen, John, and James. Margaret Emerson married George Butler, and was the only volunteer nurse from Salem Township, and possibly from Steuben County, during World War I. She was stationed at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

James married Eva Holden, and their children are Barbara, Lois, Emilyn, Jessie, Beth, and John. This family lives on the one hundred-year-old original Emerson homestead in Salem Township.

The A. E. Emerson family has long been a prominent family in Salem Township. They have all been active in the Presbyterian Church as well as in other community and county affairs. A. E. Emerson was an elder in the church for over fifty years. He died in the house where he was born. Probably no other family can equal the teaching record of the A. E. Emerson family, for thirteen of them chose the teaching profession as their contribution to the service of mankind.

The A. E. Emerson family is a six generation family in the township:

Avery Emerson Sr. (1788-1864)  
 Luke Allen Emerson (1824-1864)  
 Albert Emmons Emerson (1859-1942)  
 James Emerson (1903- )  
 Emilyn Emerson Hughes (1933- )  
 Susan Hughes (1950- )

Avery Emerson Jr. (1827-1894) married Elisabeth Parsell (1833-1915) and they had nine children: Oscar, Homer, Frederick, John, George, Elizabeth, Sophronia, Abijah, and Robert. Of these nine children George, Elizabeth, and Abijah made Salem Township their home for many years.

From the memoirs of John Parsell we share this incident: "No shoes were worn by the children from early spring until late fall. When the barefoot children would go over the frosty ground to get the cows, they would make the cows get up, so they could warm their feet on the warm spot. One cold day in the autumn, Homer Emerson had to wear his Aunt Sarah's shoes to go nutting, so his father, Avery Emerson Jr., went to the Burg and bought so many pairs of shoes that the storekeeper gave him a new bushel basket in which to carry them home. The boys then used the basket for nuts."

Elizabeth Emerson (1868-1941) married Elbridge Butler (1865-1950). Abijah Emerson (1873-1941)

married Clara Spears (1875-1912) and their children were Mabel, Ned, Emily, Gladys, Anna Marjorie, and Abijah D. Jr. (Jack). Mabel Emerson married Sam Greeno and they have three children: Virginia, Max Emerson, and Jean Alice.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Greeno reside one half mile west of the Block Church Corner, but their children are all residents of Fort Wayne. Mr. Greeno is a successful farmer on the land where he has lived for many years. It was also the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Greeno, now deceased. Sam's grandparents were Samuel and Abigail Greeno.

Ned Emerson married Valta Garver and their children were Lee (deceased), and Clara Marie.

This is another six generation group in the Emerson family:

Avery Emerson, Sr. (1788-1864)  
 Avery Emerson, Jr. (1827-1894)  
 Abijah Emerson (1873-1941)  
 Mabel Emerson Greeno (1897- )  
 Virginia Greeno Breese (1919- )  
 John Philip Breese (1944- )

A little west and across from Sam Greeno's farm, there was once an old frame school called the Butler school. It was here that the Butler, Bodley, Emerson, Elliot, Weaver, and Hammond children attended school. After this school was discontinued, Thad VanPelt moved it across the road and it later burned.

Living south of Block Church Corner is the family of Oakley Amerman. They are residing on the farm where Robert Bell and Samuel Parker lived years before. Oakley represents the third generation of Amermans to live in Salem Township.

Peter (1825-1899) and Getta Margaret (Hall) (1827-1905) Amerman were the first generation to live in Salem Township. They had nine children. William Amerman (1855-1944) married Frances Silvey and for two years ran a store in Salem. Their children were Mabel, Oakley, Ben (deceased), and James.

Oakley Amerman (1879- ) married Blanche Ewing and they have lived on their farm in section 4 since 1917. Their two daughters are Florence and Geneva. Florence married Maynard Holden and their home is just north of Block Church



Corner. Their children are Keith, Carol, Richard, and Jean.

Six generations of the Amerman family have resided in the township:

Peter Amerman (1825-1899)  
 William Amerman (1855-1944)  
 Oakley Amerman (1879- )  
 Florence Amerman Holden (1906- )  
 Keith Holden (1926- )  
 Linda Lou Holden (1948- )

In about 1890 the Wood School was built just west of where Mrs. Pearl Wood resides, and east of the Block Cemetery. The land was donated by Mrs. John Russell Wood Chenoweth, and the labor was done by the men in the community under the supervision of George Resler. Melva Warstler was the last teacher at Wood School. Other teachers associated with the school were Tellie Wisel and Ward Sparks.

In 1912 the Wood School was abandoned and sold to Gus Lang, who paid \$310 for the old schoolhouse and one acre of land. The building was torn down and the brick was taken to the county home near Angola to be used for building purposes. The acre of ground is now a part of the farm of Florence E. Heffley.

Another prominent family in the Block Church Area was the Beigh family. In 1868 John Beigh (1822-1903) and his family moved from Jackson Township to Salem Township and made this his home until he was killed by a railroad train near Angola. Silas Beigh (1846-1934) represents the second generation of Beighs. They are a six generation family.

John Beigh (1822-1903)  
 Silas Beigh (1846-1934)  
 Oran Beigh (1876- )  
 Beulah Beigh Miller (1907- )  
 Beverly Miller Pristas (1933- )  
 Nanette Pristas (1954- )

Over a hundred years ago the Block Church Corner was the center of religious and social development in Salem Township. It was here that the ideals and goals for a full and wholesome life were nurtured. Today only the Block Cemetery is there on the corner, to remind us of our pioneer parents and the principles of life that they established.

### Dutch Mill Corners

Two miles east of Salem is a four corners that has been known for many years as Dutch Mills. A group of houses there form the little rural community that is unique and fascinating in historical facts. Probably there is only one couple there now that has shared the experiences and happenings of the early days. This estimable couple is Mr. and Mrs. David Ritter who live on the southwest corner in a double house that was built by John Bowman and Jacob Wagoner. They bought the land in 1856 and built the double house to accommodate the two families. On December 8, 1853, they also purchased from William and Charlotte Meek the land that was spoken of as the mill field, on the southeast corner in section 13. This land was to be used as a mill site; Bowman and Wagoner to build on this land a steam saw mill, and run it. Mr. Wagoner was of Dutch descent and having inherited the accent and mannerisms of his people, it seemed natural to call the mill "Dutch Mill," and the corner still bears the name.

This mill field property was the subject of many transactions and the following names are recorded on the deeds: William Meek, Charlotte Meek, John Bowman, Jacob Wagoner, Michael Klink, John Kreischer, Elizabeth Kreischer, Selim Cogswell, John Norman, Rachel Norman, Margaret Cogswell, William Cain, Melissa Cain, Bertha Meek, Simon Beck, Caroline Beck, John Noll, Mor-eda Noll, Edward Noll, Chloe Noll, Charles Brown, Harriet Brown, Levi Free, Mary Free, Samuel Stover, Chester Klink, Elmer Nolan, and Emaline Stover.

In the early 1900's a tile mill was built in the mill field, and in 1907 Samuel Stover sold to Chester Klink the tile mill and saw mill. In 1917 Mr. Klink sold all the property to Edward Noll and Edward Meek except the tile kiln which he reserved, and moved to Steubenville, Indiana, where it was discontinued. Mr. Noll and Mr. Meek finally sold the property to Emaline Stover with the right to operate the saw mill until July 15, 1917, at which time they were to remove the mill. The saw mill brought much activity to the corners. It was run by steam power, and 4000 ft. of lumber were sawed per day. This mill furnished the ties for the Wabash Railroad when it was built across the southern border of the township.

Bion Young now owns and operates the farm, including the old mill field.

Although Mr. and Mrs. Hayes Hoyer are not natives of Salem Township, they have made their home east of Dutch Mills in section 12 for many years. They erected the house that they live in in 1911, and here they have reared a family of nine children. Mr. Hoyer's parents were Jacob and Sarah Hoyer, and Mrs. Hoyer, Emma, was the oldest of two daughters born to Hosea and Elizabeth Dayhoff.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Hayes Hoyer is quite unusual in that there are two sets of twins: Basil and Berniece, and Faye and Ray. The Hoyer family has contributed much to the progress of Salem Township. Mr. and Mrs. Hayes Hoyer celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on December 24, 1952, with all of their children and grandchildren present.

Living north of Dutch Mill Corners are Mr. and Mrs. William Chrysler, Mr. and Mrs. Ivy Mendenhall, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Blech, Orin Beigh, Mr. and Mrs. DeWayne Shumaker, Mr. and Mrs. I. D. Ritter, and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ernsberger.

Dewayne Shumaker married Boneta Perkins and lives on the farm in section 11 that was purchased by his great-great-grandfather, Jacob Motsolf, in 1864. It was transformed from a wilderness and improved into the pleasant place that it is today. Five generations of one family have lived on the Motsolf farm where Dewayne resides:

Jacob Motsolf (1818-1887)  
 Charles Motsolf (1862-1944)  
 Effie Motsolf Ritter (1885- )  
 Opal Ritter Shumaker (1907- )  
 Dewayne Shumaker (1927- )

The Noll family has exercised a great influence over the Salem community and furnished valuable service as capable farmers, mechanics, and business men. The founder of the Noll family was George Noll (1796-1852). He came to Salem Township in 1839 and bought land in section 11, north of Dutch Mill Corners. His first home was a log cabin. An Indian trail ran near the house and the family saw Indians passing over the trail every day. They were very peaceful and would often stop at the Noll home. Mr. Noll recalled that salt retailed at \$9.00 a barrel, although wheat sold for only 40c a bushel. All grain was hauled to market at Coldwater, Michigan. Samuel Noll,

the son of George Noll, was born in 1817 and was just a young man when his father came to Salem Township. He spent many hours chopping wood and clearing brush. Sam was a very skillful worker and had a great knowledge of the carpenter trade. His services were in constant demand for furniture making, and more particularly for fashioning coffins. Although he kept his home on the farm, he engaged in the undertaking business and was in that work for about forty years until the time of his death in 1888. This undertaking establishment stood north of the Dutch Mills Corners in section 11. Isaac and William Kreischer, aged 90 and 80, reside in Ashley, and, in their younger years, worked for Mr. Noll. They relate the following: The coffins were made of solid walnut and varnished on the outside. Starting at the foot they were narrow and were widened for the shoulders. They were lined with snow-white muslin and had fancy braids for handles. The coffins sold for \$10, and the cost of the funeral services, including the coffin, was \$40. Bodies were not embalmed, but relatives and friends would keep constant vigil over the corpse, applying a cloth wrung from a solution which would keep the body from turning black. The bodies were never taken from the home until they went to the burial ground.

Sam Noll's wife was Christina Flectling of Alsace, Germany. Chris, as she was called, had a stone oven outside where she baked and cooked. The log cabins were heated by fireplaces. Chris' sister, Salomey Flectling, lived in the Noll home and practiced witchcraft, often wrapping herself with many layers of clothing in order to keep the evil spirits away.

Edward Noll represented the third generation of the Noll family. He was born in the old home in Salem Township in 1849. He learned the carpenter trade, and was a blacksmith for two years. His mechanical abilities found expression, not only in the varied work of the farm, but as the operator of a threshing outfit. For forty years he was in this line of business, starting with the old horse power apparatus and handling the improved models as they were introduced.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Noll moved to Ashley a few years before his death. Mr. Noll's deep devotion, love, and attachment for his native township was shown when he appeared at the Salem polls to vote in 1952, making the remark that if he couldn't vote in Salem Township, he wouldn't vote. Six



generations of this family have lived in Salem Township.

George Noll (1796-1852)  
 Samuel Noll (1817-1888)  
 William Noll (1842-1923)  
 Samuel M. Noll (1871-1953)  
 Herschel Noll (1914- )  
 Sammy D. Noll (1946- )

West of the Dutch Mill Corners is the Trinity Reformed Church which was built in 1882. Samuel Noll, born in 1817 in Stark County, Ohio, and coming to Steuben County in 1839, donated the land, and was largely responsible for its construction. He made the church furniture, including the pulpit, which is made of sumac wood.

Before the church was built, the organization held services in the Mt. Zion Church in Steuben Township. The church was dedicated on October 28, 1883, with Rev. Grosenbaugh preaching the dedicatory sermon. The pastor was Rev. F. F. Christine and he presented to the church a large pulpit Bible on that day.

The ordained ministers who have served the church are:

Rev. Christine	1882-1888
Rev. Clayton	1888-1891
Rev. Albright	1892-1897
Rev. Seity	1897-1902
Rev. Lautysenhiser	1903-1907
Rev. Werner	1909-1912
Rev. Hart	1915-1919
Rev. Schrorer	1919-1921
Rev. Reideubaug	1923-1925
Rev. Albright	1929-1932
Rev. Michael	1935-1937
Rev. Grimm	1937-1939
Rev. Heffley	1939-1942

Other ministers have served as supply and field men, and some Seminary students have preached at various times.

Some of the elders who have served the church are David Ritter 1885, Samuel Stover 1885, E. Noll 1889, John Hughes 1890, Fred Ransburg 1893, George Conklin 1894, Charles Motsolf, A. J. Sparks 1896, Samuel Allen 1898, Edward Noll 1903, Alpheus Slater 1929, Samuel Noll 1930, and in more recent years Owen Elson, Wayne Allen, Reuel Ransburg, and Virgil McClish.

The church was closed for regular services and Sunday School the last of December, 1948.

Sunday School superintendents during the last

thirty years were: Alpheus Slater, Charles Motsolf, Samuel Allen, Chauncey Ringler, Edward Noll, William Noll, Claude McClish, Wayne Allen, Owen Elson, Virgil McClish, Vern Noll, Reuel Ransburg, and Mamie McLain.

David Hughes, a pioneer settler from Ohio, came to Salem Township and settled in section 11. He was one of the earliest merchants in the township, operating a store at Dutch Mill Corners. This store was located on the northwest corner where Robert Wilder lives at the present time. David Hughes was Justice of the Peace from 1846-1855. He later moved to Jackson Township and was Justice of the Peace there. It was in this locality where he passed away.

John Hughes (1838-1893), the son of David, represents the second generation of Hughes' in Salem Township. He received his education in the public schools of Steuben County and was employed for several years in the saw mill at Dutch Mill Corners. He was a Republican in politics, and a member of the Reformed Lutheran Church. His wife, Martha Meek Hughes (1846-1918), was the mother of fourteen children.

Six generations of Hughes' have resided in Salem Township:

David Hughes  
 John Hughes (1838-1893)  
 Porter Hughes (1880-1951)  
 Dale Hughes Sr. (1899- )  
 Dale Hughes Jr. (1931- )  
 Susan Dianne Hughes (1950- )

About one-half mile north of the Dutch Mill Corners on the farm of William Chrysler stands the one room brick school that was used for many years, known as North Klink District No. 1. Mary Butler Janning was the last teacher there in 1920-1921. Mr. Chrysler's deed shows an acre of ground allotted to the township for school purposes in 1847, but it seems that the frame building, which was the first school there, was across the road. Teachers recalled are Len K. Parr in 1895-6, and the pupils that year were: Chester Klink, Carrie Sunday, Walter Stover, John Ritter, Charlie Cook, Effie Motsolf, Neva Cook, Earl Hughes, Loina Kreischer, Frank Cook, Carl Tubbs, Oral Cook, Jennie Kreischer, Rachel Hughes, Lawrence Klink, Clovie Hills, Dessie Ransburg, Vina Ritter, Burl Hughes, Lena Conklin, Mable Tubbs, Lucy Ritter, Albert Cook, Romeo Greeno, and Lloyd Killingr.

Other teachers mentioned were Lillie Benedict, Ona Sherrow, Frank Hughes, Ollie Beigh, Grace Skelly, Hurma Brugh, Molly McKinley, Liddie Sherrow, and Elizabeth Dole. The following teachers taught in the brick Klink No. 1 building: Jesse McClugan, Luella Fulmer, Tellie Wisel, Elsie Wisel, Marie Parsell, Frank Hughes, and Celia Markley.

The old frame Klink school was torn down by John Kreischer, and he moved the lumber east of the Dutch Mill Corners and built a house, which later burned.

Mention is made of several asheries located throughout the township, and two of them were at Dutch Mill Corners. Forty rods east of Dutch Mill Corners, on the south side of the road was one, and twenty rods north of the corner on the west side was another. Land was being cleared, and ashes were plentiful. They were brought by wagon box loads from the ash heap in the woods to Dutch Mill Corners asheries. A wagon would hold about twenty-eight bushels, and they brought 1c a bushel, all profit. The ashes were packed tightly in a wooden container or box ten feet long, four feet wide, and eight feet high. The bottom was constructed so that they could leach water through the wood ashes and obtain lye or "potash juice." A trough was constructed at the bottom of the box where the potash juice would collect. It was then boiled down and shipped to a commercial manufacturer of saleratus or soda. The detail of these old asheries at Dutch Mill Corners was taken from the sketches of John Parsell.

Dutch Mill Corners seems to have been the industrial corner of the township, for it was here that the pioneer industries took root and bloomed until the progress of years caused them to wither and die; some never to be replaced, and others to take root in a new clime.

#### Hollister Corner

A mile east of Salem Village is a four corners that was the home of several pioneer families. Still living about this corner are the descendants of some of these settlers.

The Doles, Amermans, Dreher, Lepleys, and Berliens, all came from Huron County, Ohio, to Salem Township. They were friends before they came, and Doles and Amermans were the cause of the others' coming. There were also the Conklins and Klinks.

Mose Hollister settled on the northeast corner in section 11 and gave the ground for Hollister Cemetery. He then sold his farm to a Mr. Kirkwood, whose daughter Susannah married John Dole. The Doles came to Salem Township in 1861 and bought the land from Susannah's father. It was in the midst of the woods, and wild deer and turkey were plentiful.

Mose Hollister, after selling the northeast corner, bought the land on the southeast corner, and gave the plot for the Hollister schoolhouse. This frame school was built by the Doles between 1865 and 1870, and was closed in 1890. In 1944, Earl Ringler, who is the present owner of the southeast corner, tore down the old Hollister schoolhouse and used the lumber for rebuilding purposes. Nellie Helmer Hovarter was the last teacher there.

Another pioneer family in this area was the Conklin family who came from Dutchess and Cayuga County, New York. Isaac Conklin represents the first generation of Conklins in Salem Township. His son David married Polly Van Fleet, who died in Ohio. They had seven children, one of whom was Ensign. Ensign Conklin married Betsy Hollister, and their son George (1855-1922) married Mary Harpster (1859-1938). They had one daughter Lena, who married Brown DeGraw. They live on the northeast corner of Hollister corner where Lena's parents lived when she was a child. The DeGraws are parents of four children: Louise, Frank, Dorothy, and Mary Lou.

The Conklins are one of the few seven generation families in the township:

Isaac Conklin (d. May 12, 1862)  
 David Conklin (1803-1881)  
 Ensign Conklin (1826-1904)  
 George Conklin (1855-1922)  
 Lena Conklin DeGraw (1888- )  
 Frank DeGraw (1918- )  
 Glen Allen DeGraw (1954- )

The Conklins acquired and cleared a large acreage of land, and were also active in the development and progress of the township.

About 1844 there was an old mill at Hollister Corner. This mill stood on the northeast corner and was run by a water wheel. The lumber for one of the Butler barns was sawed at this mill.

Just north of Hollister Corner in section 10 lives the family of Wayne Klink. The Klink family originated in the district of Wertenberg, Germany,



where the name was spelled Klinck. They sailed from Hamburg in 1815 and, after two months, arrived in Philadelphia. The family consisted of the parents and nine children. Christian Klink, the oldest son, married Mary Failor (1804-1891) of Pennsylvania Dutch Mennonite origin, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and to them nine children were born. The family came to Indiana in 1848 and bought a farm from Adolphus Gale in section 12, Salem Township. Christian Klink lived to see much of the land under cultivation.

Six generations of this family have been associated with Salem Township:

Christian Klink (1795-1872)  
 Elizabeth Klink Parsell (no dates)  
 Christian Parsell (1865-1923)  
 Ward Parsell (1889- )  
 Glen Parsell (1915- )  
 Robert Parsell (1936- )

Another branch of the family has had the following six generations in Salem Township:

Christian Klink (1795-1872)  
 Eli Klink (1844-1909)  
 Chester Klink (1879-1948)  
 Wayne Klink (1908- )  
 Michael Klink (1930- )  
 Michael Klink (1952- )

Still another branch of the family has made Salem Township their home for six generations:

Christian Klink (1795-1872)  
 John Klink (1829-1866)  
 Mary Klink Killinger (1857-1926)  
 Minnie Killinger Dole (1874- )  
 Fermin Dole (1915- )  
 Nellie Jean Dole (1940- )

One of the older couples living near Hollister Corner is Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bickel, who celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1948 with all their six children present.

The little community around Hollister Corner at the present time includes the families of Brown DeGraw, Wayne Klink, Maynard Ulmer, Rollo Halsey, Clyde and Kenyon Boots, Verild Shumaker, Vesta Hughes, Ralph Jones, Donald Boyer, Frank Bickel, and Flora and Earl Ringler. Earl Ringler lives on the farm that was owned by his grandfather, Jacob Parr. Chauncey and Flora Ringler lived at Hollister Corner for many years.

Five Wood generations have lived in the township:

John Russell Wood (no dates)  
 William Wood (1871-1921)  
 Blanche Wood Tritch (1896- )  
 Orlo Tritch (1917- )  
 Jack Tritch (1947- )

Rollo Halsey purchased the Bert Manahan farm which is north of Hollister Corner.

Hollister Corner seems to reflect the stability, determination, and progress of the pioneer families, for their descendants have remained in the "old neighborhood" to carry on the task that originated over one hundred years ago.

### Crusan Corners

Crusan Corners was located just east of the farm home of Ward Sparks in section 24. An angling road came from a southeasterly direction and crossed the east and west road. This crossing was known as Crusan Corners.

E. Crusan was one of the first settlers to come to Salem Township, and settled in section 13. He owned and managed a tavern at this corner, but evidently left Salem Township in a short time and there is no available information concerning him.

George D. Ransburg I represents the first generation of Ransburgs in Salem Township. His six children were Anna, Martin V., Rachel, Fred, George W., and Lottie. Martin V. Ransburg was a physician for many years in Salem Village and also taught school.

Three schoolhouses have been built on the northeast corner of Sparks Corners. The first school was built very close to the present corner, and when the grading was done for the road, the men unearthed the old school foundation. The second building was a frame structure, that, according to the deed, was moved in 1898 a little north of the corner and is now occupied and owned by the Lee Coney family. The third frame building still stands on the northeast corner. These schools have been known as Klink No. 2, Ransburg School, and Sparks School. Raymond Holden of Moline, Illinois, was the last teacher. Other teachers who taught at these schools were Clara Metz, Frank Hughes, E. B. Parsell, Nellie Shaffstall, Jennie Klink, John Ousterhout, Blanche Gramling, Mattie Klink, Elsie Wisel, Florence Butler Jones, and Dale Hughes. Mention has been

made of several log schools in this vicinity, but there is no authentic record concerning them.

On the Salem Township map of 1876 is shown a fort that was called Fort Ancient. This is in section 23, and the farmers in that area report the finding of many Indian stones and arrows. A dirt wall was built about four or five feet high and two hundred feet in diameter. Wigwams were put up inside the wall for protection against enemy tribes or the white settlers. Over the period of years this wall has been leveled by the process of farming, but some Salem Township men who have lived in that area remember playing on the walls of old Fort Ancient.

Living near Sparks Corners at the present time are Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Goodrich and their three children, Eleanor, Helen, and Beverley. They are active participants in farm and community organizations. Mr. and Mrs. Carson Kaiser and son Roger live just east of the corner. An airplane crashed several years ago near their farm home, killing three people. Mr. and Mrs. Ira Bright live east of the corner, where Mr. Bright farms. They are both teachers in the Flint schools. Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Sunday live in this community where they have lived for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Sunday and children, Dorothy and David, live near the parental home. The Wilhelm farm is on the northwest corner.

After the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Sparks, their son, Ward, remained on the home farm. He taught at Wood, North Klink, and Salem Center Schools, and served the township as trustee. Zema Ettinger Sparks taught at Gillespie and North Klink Schools.

Other trustees mentioned in the township records are David Haskins, Charley Libey, Ick Parsell, Oakley Amerman, Worthy Stroman, and Will Morrison.

In the summer of 1953 several farms in Salem Township were leased for prospective oil. The leased area was a diagonal plot through the township from southeast to northwest. The land was leased for 50¢ an acre, the company to receive  $\frac{7}{8}$  and the farmer  $\frac{1}{8}$  of the oil. In the early spring of 1954 an oil well was drilled in section 22 on the farm of Cecil and Don Noll. Gas pockets were reported and a small vein of oil, but no information was released.

Dial telephones were installed throughout the township in the early spring of 1954, but they were not put into use until the summer months.

As progress makes history we are mindful of the great progress made in the radio field, for during 1953 and 1954 many Salem Township homes were equipped with television. The first radios were installed about 1920.

Some of the first automobiles in the township were owned by Eugene Weicht, William Morrison, and Daniel Wisel. Mr. Wisel, in his little red 1914 Brush car, was a familiar sight on Salem Township roads.

Since Ft. Ancient and Crusan Corners, time has changed all things, and now the corner is referred to as Sparks Corners, located on the Cable Line, on a black top highway and in the midst of a rich farming section.

### Big Turkey Lake

Turkey Lake, which lies on the western boundary, is the largest lake in Salem township. Big Turkey Lake was much smaller when the first settlers arrived. At that time it was two lakes connected by a narrow channel that was dry enough for wading at certain times of the year. There were only two islands that could be seen, and two or three submerged ones. Now there are many islands, mostly in the southern part. There is very little natural shoreline left and this is on the farm of William Hose. The soil around the lake is marl with a marl bottom. There is no good bathing beach. The natural shore is variable and goes off very sharply.

About the last of the nineteenth century, Emanuel Stroh contracted for the marl adjoining, for the manufacture of cement. Soon after 1900, the Wabash Portland Cement Company came in and built a cement plant on the northwest side in LaGrange County, north of Stroh. The Wabash Railroad built a spur from Helmer to Stroh. This spur was taken up in 1938. In the early part of the 1890's, the first dredge ditch was dug. It was started in Little Turkey Lake near Hudson and came through Lime Kiln to Big Turkey Lake. A channel was also dredged from Big Turkey to Henry Lake. The outlet is in LaGrange County at Mongo. This ditch was cleaned in 1921.

After Stroh was started in about 1900, the farmers of Salem Community saw the need for a road around the south end of the lake, so a petition was circulated for a road starting at the corner of sections 7, 8, 17, 18, and going south along lines of sections 17 and 18, three-fourths of a mile, then



west to the county line. This road was built about 1902. All of Big Turkey Lake is in sections 7 and 18 in Steuben County, with a small portion in LaGrange County.

It is possible that there are more than 500 acres in Big Turkey Lake now. It is not as deep as some lakes, but is more like a river with a channel, as there is a movement at all times.

About 1898, Alfred D. Denison sold a lot fifty feet wide to William Lepley and William Hose. At that time it was called Weber's Landing. The approach to the landing was across Weber's farm which is now owned by Eshu Tritch. Mr. Lepley and Mr. Hose built the first cottage on the lake.

In recent years Turkey Lake has grown from its native wild state to a busy lake resort with many attractive cottages bordering its shoreline. For several years, Claude Gettys has operated a neighborhood store and boat livery on the south side of the lake.

On the north and east shores of Big Turkey Lake a beautiful addition is being developed, known as Wildwood by the Lake. It covers nearly 58 acres of beautiful wooded land with nearly a mile of shore front. Mr. J. W. Sprinkle was associated with Maude and Max Murray in this enterprise. After the death of J. W. Sprinkle in 1946, his brother, W. V. Sprinkle, purchased the property and is continuing with the development of this addition.

Vern D. Denison, whose farm edges the east shores of Big Turkey Lake, has done much in developing the east side of the lake. In 1945, Denison's Beach was laid out. In 1946, the first addition to the beach was dedicated, and, in 1948, the second addition was dedicated. Denison's Beach contains over one hundred lots.

An interesting story is related about the Potawatomi Indians and Turkey Lake. Delicious purple berries grew on the western shores of the lake, and the squaws would take their canoes and paddle across the lake to pick them. One day, they crossed the lake, and, as they were picking, they noticed a storm approaching. They hurriedly jumped into their canoes and started for the east shore. One squaw thought her canoe would go faster if she would set a bush up in the bow of the canoe. The wind caught the bush, capsized the canoe, and the squaw was drowned. Mr. Otis Wisel and other white settlers expressed their words of sympathy to the Indians, and all

they would reply was, "Too much bush; too much bush."

One of the pioneers who settled in the vicinity of Big Turkey Lake was John McLain (1792-1855). He came to Salem Township in 1844 and bought a tract of unimproved land from John Candy. He built a log house and the family moved into it in April of 1845. John McLain married Eunice Nelson (1803-1876). There was a family of thirteen children, and Leonard N. McLain (1834-1901) was one of them. He enlisted in 1861 in the Twenty-first Indiana Infantry. His entire term of service was four and a half years longer than any other soldier from Salem Township. Leonard McLain married Mary Fast (1868-1921). They had two children, Erdly L. (1868-1925) and Ray (1884-1952). In the family Bible that is in the possession of Clifford McLain, the early members spelled the last name, "McLean." In 1901 the records show the spelling to be "McLain."

Leonard N. McLain had four brothers and two brothers-in-law in the army at the same period. Probably no other family can equal the record of the John McLain family in military service.

Erdly McLain married Phoebe Miller (1871-1931). One son, Clifford, survived them. For fourteen years, Erdly McLain drove the school hack to Salem. Two horses pulled the hack, which was an enclosed vehicle with seats along the side so the passengers were face to face. Over the period of years, the children became very fond of Mr. McLain, and he was known to buy gifts often for those who were graduated or would move away.

This family can be proud of their six generations in Salem Township and the military record they have continued.

John McLean (McLain) (1792-1855)  
 Leonard McLain (1834-1901)  
 Erdly McLain (1868-1925)  
 Clifford McLain (1891- )  
 Donald McLain (1918- )  
 Gordon McLain (1938- )

One mile north of Turkey Lake is the Gillespie Schoolhouse which was built in 1890 when David Haskins was trustee. The land was taken from the Weaver farm, and George Resler had the contract for building both the Gillespie and Wood schools. Men from the community worked on the buildings at seventy-five cents a day. The Gil-

lespie family lived across the road so the school acquired the name, "Gillespie." Sunday School was held in this school in 1898. Helen Bodley Stevens was the last teacher here in 1922. The building still stands as a sentinel of pleasant memories and high ideals.

Mrs. Cora Wisel Shields compiled the following list of early school teachers in the township. This list represents the entire township, and some of them may have taught at Gillespie: Jerusha B. Wisel, Amasa Ellithorp, Annie Day, Artie Wisel, Francis Glasco, Eliza Wright, Tena Acker, Alice Acker, A. H. Barber, Mary Barber, Ida Parsell, Etta Parsell, Eva Chaffee, George Ellithorp, Lettie Ellithorp, Pyrl Gunsaulus, Ella Gunsaulus, Jennie Fackler, Mary Kerlin, Ella Wert, Nora Teal, Manda Harpster, Alice Ousterhout, Eva Jackson, Frone Emerson, Cora Snyder, Mary Snyder, Newton W. Gilbert, Enos B. Parsell, Ezra Dodge, Lura Shaffstall, Charity Laughry, Alva H. Averill, M. F. Campbell, Elsie M. Wisel, Seth Avery, Frank Hughes, Otis Wisel Jr., Ruby Boyer, Tellie Wisel, Ruth Ayres, and Zema Ettinger.

West about one-half mile from Gillespie School, where Mrs. Blanch Smith resides at the present time, is the farm where the pioneer families of Peter and Angus McKinlay settled. They built a log house and after a few years residence, they moved into LaGrange County. The McKinlay family was very progressive. They had a flour mill and a glove factory at Ontario, Indiana. One night, horse thieves stole a large number of gloves. Discouraged with the ordeal, Mr. McKinlay eventually moved to Kansas. Florence Herbert Heffley, who resides in Salem Township, is a great-granddaughter of the McKinlay family.

One mile east of Big Turkey Lake on the southeast corner stood another old school known as Hickory Grove. When this frame building was erected, it was surrounded by a grove of beautiful hickory trees, and thus the name of the school. Some of the teachers mentioned at Hickory Grove were Jennie Freygang (the first teacher, and half-sister of Susie Weaver), Zella Denison, Kay Butler, Nellie Klink, Ward Sparks, Mike Hovarter, Grace Hall, George Ellithorp, Lillie Beigh, and John Ousterhout. Teachers' Institutes were held at Hickory Grove. Seymour Butler was the trustee for a time, and was followed in office by Adam Shaffstall.

In 1941 Harvey Van Pelt moved the Hickory

Grove School just east of the corner near his farm home, where he uses it for a chicken house and garage. Mr. and Mrs. Enos Mead built a new home on the Hickory Grove Corner in 1953.

In the spring of 1849, Daniel David Denison and family came from Ohio and settled on the west eighty acres in section 16, now owned by Frank Hughes. In 1872, Alfred Denison, son of Daniel, bought the farm where his son, Vern, now lives in section 18, from a Mr. Hedglin. Only a small patch was cleared, and the road from the corner was not open. It was laid out, but both sides were owned by the same man, and he kept the rail fence across to keep trespassers away. The fence was left down so many times that he became tired of closing it and left it permanently open.

Just south of the Butler apple orchard is the farm of Eshu Tritch. Eshu represents the third generation of the Tritch family. Frederick (1825-1881) and Margaret (1826-1888) Troutman Tritch were the first generation of the Tritch family in Salem Township. They were both natives of Germany and were married there. Frederick came to the United States in 1853, and, in 1855, his family arrived in this country. They lived in Ohio and in Allen County, Indiana, and settled in Salem Township in 1864, south of Lime Kiln Lake. This land was cleared by Frederick Tritch, and his home and barn were both of log structure.

Prosperity came to the Tritch family by hard labor and self denial.

Nearly all of Salem Township is a farming area, and Turkey Lake borders our western boundary to bring us still more scenic pleasure and historical knowledge.

### Turkey Creek

Turkey Creek is located in section 29 on the present state highway 327, about one and a half miles north of Helmer. It was named for the flowing creek along whose banks an abundance of wild turkeys was to be found.

The Turkey Creek post office was established in 1852 in the home of Almon Chaffey. Matt Cary started a store in the "lean-to" of his house on the north side of the forks in the road. This first "store" was said to have contained a barrel of salt, a barrel of flour, and a barrel of whiskey.

The town was formally platted in 1857 by Porter Johnson, and a general store built in the tri-



angular plot of ground where the three roads intersected. The post office was believed to have been moved to the store at this time.

Turkey Creek, the largest stream of water in Salem Township, flowed at the bottom of the hill north of the store. Here once stood a saw-mill owned by a man named Douglas. The ford west of the bridge was used long after the bridge was built as a place to water oxen and horses, and later to wash the carriages that were becoming popular as the better roads were built. Upstream from the bridge was a cider mill and tannery and cobbler's shop owned by a man named Swartz. He was said to be very skilled in harness and shoe-making. Farther up the stream from this busy spot was a deep place in the stream which was the scene of many Sunday baptismal services. It was also the "swimmin' hole" for the boys during the week.

The first school was across the road from the store to the south and about twenty rods west. It was a small frame building which served for school, singing school, and church. An early teacher here was Harvey Appleman, and another man, Al Gonzer, taught singing. This building was abandoned in about 1887 when a new brick building was erected about fifteen rods east of it. The old building was sold to Emory White who used it as a grain storage for many years.

A dance pavilion and picnic ground known as the "Bowery" stood in a grove of trees on the north side of the creek. Here also was a nursery, owned by Mr. Harner, growing mostly fruit trees. This enterprise did a good business in the surrounding community. It was the only nursery ever in Salem Township. Some of the earliest settlers of these corners were Dick Richards, George Ruthman, Peter and Al Tinklepaugh, and Francis Glasgow.

The store passed into the hands of George Ellithorp about 1881 or 1882, with J. D. Perkins of Stroh as his clerk. Mr. Perkins states that the weekly Toledo Blade was the most popular newspaper, and the day it arrived was always a busy one at the store. In reminiscing on these days, Mr. Perkins tells this story:

"There was a box always kept supplied with smoking tobacco for the fellows who always hung around the store. This was paid for by the small coins that the smokers put into this box. It seemed that the men felt one old gentleman was 'a

mite close with the coin, and a bit too free with the 'baccy.' The box was nearly empty, so they decided to mix a bit of gunpowder with the remainder while the old man (George Ruthman) was at dinner. He came back, scraped out the remaining tobacco, and lit his pipe. Of course, the gunpowder ignited and exploded as the fire reached it, causing a miniature fireworks display. Calmly the old man sat and smoked, only wiping a spark away if it hit his face. When he was finished, he tapped the dottle from his pipe and went home. First there was absolute silence which was broken by one of the perpetrators of the joke (Mr. Glasgow). 'Grief, boys! Wasn't he brave! He smoked every drop; never wasted a bit!' The joke seemed to win the old fellow the right to smoke as much as he wished regardless of the amount he contributed."

Turkey Creek remained a center of activity until the Wabash Railroad was put through in 1892. At this time, Dan Pray had the store with his son Edward. Dan moved to a new store in Helmer, and Ed remained at Turkey Creek until the post office was moved to Helmer in 1893. Then the store was sold to Herrick and Hoover, and soon passed from existence. The school was the last to go when the new idea of consolidating schools began in this township shortly after 1910.

The road west of Turkey Creek was originally an Indian trail that followed the creek northwest to the Pigeon River. This trail was used by Indian and French fur-traders traveling to and from Fort Wayne before our people settled here.

The home of Jephtha Wright (1788-1874) was located about one and a quarter miles west of Turkey Creek on this road in section 19. The sturdy frame house he built there is the oldest house in that locality, and is now owned and occupied by Arthur Parr. Jephtha Wright gave land from his farm for the Wright Cemetery which lies just east of the farm home. His daughter, Mary Taylor, was the first to be buried there on July 15, 1841. Jephtha Wright was the great-grandfather of David E. Wright (1873-19—), and the father of Cyrus Wright.

Ethan Rogers (1758-1849), a soldier of the Revolutionary War, is buried there. He served under the gallant Steuben for whom our county is named. Mr. Rogers was here from Pennsylvania visiting his daughter, Mrs. Abel Bennett, at the time of his death. Two veterans of the War of 1812,

Darius Dryer and David Reed, and twenty-four who served in the Civil War, are also at rest there.

In 1891, a church known as Union Chapel was built across the road and a little east of the cemetery. For several years it was used for services by different denominations. The building trustees were E. Metz, S. Cannon, C. Shade, H. Wright, and William Hayward. As the town of Helmer grew the church was used less and less until in 1940 it was sold to the Nazarenes, and moved to its location south of Hudson on Road 737, where it is still in use. The original corner-stone of the church is given a prominent spot in the Wright Cemetery.

A Civil Aeronautics Emergency Airport was established just south of this corner on the William Bennett farm, section 19, in 1928. Howard Hecht, a grandson of Francis Glasgow, was one of the first attendants. This airport received a rather detailed hourly weather report for several years. It was a rather important field on the route between Cleveland and Chicago as its altitude was the highest of any field along this route, and many times, when all the other fields were invisible because of low ceilings, this field and its beacon light were plainly visible and many emergency landings were made there in bad flying weather. The beacon was discontinued in 1952 and was later moved to Tri-State Airport west of Angola.

Mr. Francis Glasgow (1834-1899), who was an early teacher at the Ridge School, and a farmer, lived just south of the Turkey Creek Corners. Francis Glasgow (1834-1899) married Amy Rice (1864-1947). Amy Rice was the daughter of Asa and Elizabeth Rigby Rice. The Rigby family lived one-half mile west and one-half mile south of Parker Corners. Mr. Rigby built a "lean to" on his house where he repaired shoes and boots, and also designed and made new ones.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Emrick live near Helmer on the old Emrick farm. Mary Emrick has been a teacher in the township school and also gives music lessons to a great number of children. Ralph Emrick is an industrious farmer and specializes in Jersey cattle. Both Mr. and Mrs. Emrick are active in the United Brethren Church as well as many other clubs and organizations in the community.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Johnson live in Helmer, where he operates a grocery store. They are active in the United Brethren Church as well as in community affairs.

Besides farming, Carol Glasgow, son of the late Asa Glasgow, is the County Manager of the Albion Production Credit Association, with offices in Angola. Carol Glasgow was in a prison camp in Germany for two years (1943-1945). His friend, John McEwen of Chicago, was captured at the same time, and together they escaped from their captors. After returning to Salem Township, Carol, with the aid of his army friend, went into the business of raising chinchillas. In May, 1949, they purchased two pair of chinchillas, which were the first in the county. He now has about fifty animals. They sell for a thousand dollars a pair for breeding purposes and have a value of from fifty to two hundred dollars for each pelt.

Just about forty rods north of the present village of Helmer was the site selected for the early school and church of the community. This was called Pleasant Ridge. The plot of land for the school was from the farm of Henry Hovarter, now owned and occupied by LaOmer (Tim) Bidwell. This plot was across the road and about four rods north of where the U. B. Church now stands. This first school house was a frame building and was replaced by another larger building which was built a little south of the first one. After the second school building was built, the older one was transformed into a church and dedicated to the Church of God. This building was used until the town of Helmer was a growing town, then a new church-house was built in the town in the year of 1894.

A church was built across the road in 1898 and dedicated to the United Brethren. It was largely built by donation of materials and money given by Henry Hovarter. In 1952 and 1953 extensive improvements were made, and a basement dining room was added.

In the year of 1906, during the trusteeship of Hiram Billman, a third schoolhouse was erected close to where the two others had stood. This was of white brick, and had four rooms and a furnace. The building was about thirty-five by forty feet and was two stories high. This was considered very modern for the community, and accommodated the first eight grades, and, the second year after it was built, first two years of high school were also taught there. Professor Markley was the high school teacher. However, this school was closed and the children were taken to the new consolidated high school in the center of the township in 1934. The building was used as a recrea-



tional center by the young people and for various civic affairs for a few years until it was sold to Paul Schurr in 1948. It has since been partly torn down.

The Methodist Church, which stands on the south-east corner of the four corners just south of the above-mentioned buildings, was moved from the Custer Corners about a mile south of Helmer in 1927, the plot of land for it being given by Mr. and Mrs. Worthy Stroman, whose farm home lies just south and across the road from the church. Large transformers, owned by the Northern Indiana Public Service Company, were erected directly opposite the Methodist Church in 1948.

### **The Village of Helmer**

The village of Helmer is located on the southwest corner of section 32, and is at the intersection of the Wabash Railroad and Highway 327. It was platted on May 4, 1892, by Cyrus J. Helmer (born in Onondaga County, New York, and died here in 1918) and his wife Lucy Speers Helmer (1848-1922). His son Charles (1876) and wife Kate McLugin Helmer (1878) still live in this village, named for his parents.

In 1892 when the Wabash Railroad came to Helmer from the east, Miss Mamie Hayward, daughter of William Hayward, was the first telegraph operator and station agent. Her initials, M. H., have always been Helmer's call letters. The first passenger train to make the run through into Chicago was in the summer of 1893. It was an excursion train that picked up a whole coachful of passengers at Helmer, bound for the World's Fair in Chicago. Miss Hayward held this post until her marriage to Jada Perkins in the autumn of 1897.

By this time the railroad was a busy, growing concern and the depot was operated on a twenty-four hour basis by Gene Crossley and Charles Billman. The stockyards were built by this time and many thousands of hogs, cattle, sheep, and even horses passed through them. Horses which were running in a semi-wild state in the West were brought here by the carload and sold to be tamed and used as work and driving horses. The stockyards fell into disuse with the coming of the motor truck which enabled the farmers to take their stock to more centralized points, thus gaining much time in getting the live-stock to their destinations in much less time. They were finally removed in the late 1920's.

John Keel (1878- ) came to Helmer in 1902 as a clerk at the depot, and in 1904 became a regular agent there. He served as agent for forty-nine years. In 1953 when he retired he was replaced by L. E. Masters, of Liberty Center, Ohio. During the busy days of the railroad passenger service, there were as many as six passenger trains daily. Passenger service was discontinued about 1928. Mr. Keel and his wife Edith (1886- ) now live a retired life at Helmer.

William Hayward built the elevator in 1893, but soon sold it to Dan Pray. It passed through various hands until 1951 when it was sold by Perkins and Noll to the Farm Bureau Co-operative Association of Steuben County. They have greatly enlarged it and modernized it to meet the growing demands for milling and storage space. Jason Adams, who came here from Adams County in 1927, is the very able manager of this prosperous and busy establishment.

George Parr built the first store and blacksmith shop in the south end of town on the west side of the road next to the railroad property. The blacksmith shop burned down in 1898 and Dan Pray bought the grocery store, catering to the needs of the railroad workers. Dan Pray followed by his son, Edward, owned a store in Helmer until 1915. Edward Pray (1868-1943) and his wife Clara Metz Pray (1875-1940) spent their last days in a retired life in Helmer.

Between the years of 1900 and 1915, Helmer was the scene of a large variety of stores and activities: the grain elevator; the stockyards; the depot with its heavy business of mail, express and freight; a drugstore owned by John Spearo; a millinery store owned by Pearl and Rilly (Hosford) Tritch; a grocery by George Tritch; a creamery owned by Schlosser Brothers, later used as a cheese factory by Keenan. The first livery stable was built by Jim Wren, who also owned a butcher shop there, when the town was new, and the last livery stable which was owned by Jacob Steffy fell into disuse about 1910.

Helmer was never without a doctor. Doctors Dove, Moke, and Mercer, were among the first. Dr. Robert D. Denman (1873-1955) came to Helmer in 1905 from Adams County, Indiana. He was married to Bertha Copeland (deceased) and has two children, Dean and Winifred. He has been a doctor, counsellor, and friend of the people around Helmer for almost fifty years. His patients were

from a radius of about fifteen miles, and he delivered more than two thousand babies in his lifetime of service to the community.

Hiram Billman had the first hardware store. The second hardware dealer was Harry Barker, his wife being Cora Hayward, another daughter of William Hayward.

In 1910 they sold the hardware to Worthy Stroman and wife, Clementine (Emerick), who kept it until it was burned with several other buildings in a disastrous fire that threatened to wipe out the town in 1929. Mr. Stroman was township trustee from 1927 until 1935. He has also worked extensively with sheep.

The present hardware is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Fehling. Mr. Fehling has also given much time to organizing and perfecting details of the Helmer Fire Department. The Department was organized July 20, 1953, and the new truck was installed on January 19, 1954. Helmer is justly proud of this fine piece of equipment. The truck carries three hundred and fifty gallons of water and one thousand feet of hose, with a pumping capacity of five hundred gallons per minute, and a portable auxiliary pump of the same capacity. They also have a large truck tank for water. The truck is housed on the east side of the street in the fine cement block building erected in 1949. It was first used as a grocery store and filling station by Mr. Edward Johnson. The Johnsons at present own a grocery and filling station on the west side of the street.

The post office which has changed hands many times, is at present installed in the grocery store of Ray and Margaret (Sherrick) Hoyer, who have been in the grocery business there since 1936. They have three children, Beverly, Billy, and Kelly.

The first sawmill was owned by William Douglas who was first at Turkey Creek. Levi Shaffer bought the sawmill in 1901 when he moved to Helmer from near the Chilson School Corners. There he had been in business with his father. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer spent their last years in Helmer. Mr. Shaffer sold it to D. Weimer in 1949. Mr. Weimer is assisted by Russell Shaffer, a nephew of Levi Shaffer.

A second blacksmith shop was built on the east side and was first operated by Jerry Miller. George Strawser was the last blacksmith. When he quit, the building was transformed into a garage and filling station by Angus Wicuff.

### Parker Corners

One mile south of Salem Center is the middle of the township. Here on the northeast corner is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Parker. East of the residence, Mr. Parker operates the Parker Garage, which was started by his father, Logan Parker, in 1926, and Dan took it over in 1934.

The first schoolhouse on the corner was a log structure built on the site of the present schoolhouse. William DeWitt, in his memoirs, related how he and eight chums enlisted in the Civil War in 1863 in this old log school. His chums were Charles Cole, William Bodley, Isaac Lumroe, Abraham Headley, Byron Woodford, Adson Chaffey, Wilson Brone, and Frank Sherrow.

The second school built on this corner was a one room frame structure. This school was attended by William Lepley, his sister Ella, Minor Van Pelt, Sherman Strawser, and other neighborhood children. Dr. A. G. Parsell lived where Ed Why-song lives, and his daughter, Nellie, taught there at one time. Other teachers would live in the Parsell home during the school term. One day when the teacher had gone to the Parsells for lunch, the school boys, William Lepley and Minor Van Pelt, dropped bread and coaxed some hogs in the schoolhouse, and then closed the door. When the teacher returned and opened the door, it frightened the pigs and in their escape the desks were broken, windows smashed, and everything was in muddy disorder. The teacher punished the boys by having them carry water from the creek and scrub and clean the room.

The third school built at the Center was on the southeast corner, and was built by Charlie Klink and Charlie Brown. It was originally built to the south of where it sits now, and it faced south. The dirt from the hill close to the corner was removed to Little Lake. Elsie Wisel taught in many of the district schools in the township. When she was teaching here at Center the first hot lunch program was introduced. When the days grew cold, she would take a large kettle from home, the children would bring vegetables of all kinds, and all forenoon the vegetables would cook on top of the old Round Oak stove, filling the air with an appetizing aroma. At noon they all enjoyed the stew from the bowls they had brought from home. Mabel Emerson Greeno was the last teacher at Center in 1917-1918. The building was not used again until 1953-1954 for school purposes.



During the summer of 1953 it was remodeled, shingled, and painted. It is used as a shop and work room for the agriculture department of the high school.

The third building on the southwest corner is the present Salem Center High School. It is a one story fire-resistant building. It has a gymnasium and auditorium in the center, surrounded by ten class rooms and office.

In the spring of 1948, through the efforts of Mrs. William Milleman, a Parent Teachers Association was organized and she was the first president. Lois Goodrich was vice-president, Alice Parker, secretary, and Glida Lochamire, treasurer. Mrs. William Milleman has spent countless hours in the promotion of a school lunch program. She was instrumental in establishing the hot lunch in Salem School. In 1948-49 the Parent Teachers Association sponsored the addition of a kitchen to the southwest corner of the school building, and in October of 1949 the children of Salem School were enjoying hot lunches. Mrs. Milleman and Mrs. Ross Lacey manage the cooking and serving of the meals, which cost \$1.15 per child for one week. They serve 255 students daily.

Salem Center High School offers courses in English, speech, mathematics, history, government, sociology, science, biology, physics, health, home economics, home nursing, agriculture and shop, commerce, physical education, driver training and music. The faculty of the school for 1953-54 is as follows: Leland Fee, principal, Dorothy Duke, Dean Halsey, Helen Hockey, Betty Kanaan, Bessie Lepley, Leda Litwiller, William Melvin, Sam Mercer, Josephine Parsell, Dorothy Powell, James Rowe, and Orlie Willennar. Donald Norman is the trustee. Sam Askey, who lives one-half mile south of the schoolhouse, has been the custodian for several years. The 1953-1954 Parent Teachers Association officers are: Mrs. Burdett Leas—president, Mrs. Harold Bovee—vice president, Mrs. LaOmer Bidwell—secretary, and Mr. Emmett McLain—treasurer.

Seven busses come into Salem School bringing children from grades one through high school. One other school is maintained in the township, at Hudson. This school accommodates grades one through six and is taught by Mrs. Delores Christoffel and Mrs. Rowina Ringler. Busses coming into Salem School are driven by Darrell Hughes, Heber Leas, Nihl Noll, Dan Parker, Wade Strawser, Wayne Strawser, and Dan Wisel.

Isaac (1808-1871) and Margaret (Sanderson) Parker who died in 1871, came to Steuben County in 1845 and settled in Jackson Township. They had eight children. The sons were all soldiers in the Civil War. After the war, Samuel Parker (1841-1915) returned to Salem Township and in 1881 he bought the Robert Bell farm in section 4.

The Parker family has long been recognized for their musical talents. During the turn of the century, the Parker brothers, George, Thomas, Earl, Orla and Logan, were prominent singers in the Salem area, and at singing schools and parties throughout the community. The younger generations have brought forth some musicians too. Lynda Parker Loucks has written several musical numbers, and in 1950 she was the winner of fourth prize in Lorenz Music Publishing Company's sixteenth anniversary competition. Her anthem, "God's House," was selected from 400 entries in this national contest. Charles, the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Parker, was an outstanding soloist in his high school days. Charles married Lela Dangler. They have a daughter, Katherine Joan. He is in the Armed Forces at the present time. Charles' younger brothers are singers too. The Parker family is generous and cooperative in sharing all their talents in the communities where they live. This is another six generation family living in Steuben County.

Isaac Parker (1808-1871)  
 Samuel Parker (1841-1915)  
 Logan Parker (1884- )  
 Dan Parker (1910- )  
 Charles Parker (1933- )  
 Katherine Joan Parker (1953- )

Some fifty years ago, living near Parker Corners were the Shaffstall, Gunsaulus, Ellithorp, Why-song, Lepley, Strawser, Phillips, Tumbleson, Van Pelt, DeWitt, Allen, Kirlin, and Hovarter families.

Franklin and Annie Shaffstall lived near Parker Corners. These older members are all gone, and there are no descendants living within the township.

Elijah and Elizabeth Gunsaulus lived in the township for some years, but moved to Noble County. Mr. and Mrs. William Gunsaulus have four children: Leo, Nellie, Vern, and Vine.

Living east of the Center schoolhouse was the family of William Lepley (1862-1949) whose parents, Samuel (1830-1909) and Catherine (Hender) Lepley, came to Salem Township in 1864 in a

covered wagon. They cleared the land and built their home. William Lepley's grandparents were Peter (1803-1881) and Catherine (Dick) Lepley, who were natives of Pennsylvania but moved to Ohio. After Catherine (Dick) Lepley's death, Peter Lepley came to Salem Township and spent the last years of his life with his son, Samuel. They were active members of the Reformed Lutheran Church.

"Shirl" Whysong, son of Scott and Ella (Lepley) Whysong, has served the community as a paper hanger, painter, and carpenter. Winfred Jay, another son, served in World War I in Europe. He never married, but lives alone in his comfortable home in Salem.

Six generations of the Lepley family have lived in Salem Township and near-by communities.

Peter Lepley (1803-1881)  
 Samuel Lepley (1830-1909)  
 William Lepley (1862-1949)  
 Guy Lepley (1891- )  
 DeWayne Lepley (1923- )  
 Richard Lepley (1948- )

John and Rilda Tumbleson (both deceased) made their home near Parker Corners and reared three children: Wendell, of Chicago, Minnie, who lives in Ft. Wayne, and Ruth, of Mishawaka.

South of Parker Corners is the Strawser farm which is owned and operated by Wayne Strawser. This farm was purchased in 1881 by Wayne's grandfather, George W. Strawser, who came to Salem Township from Ohio. George W. Strawser fought in the battle of Jonesboro in the Civil War, and was wounded. It was George Strawser who built the straight road from the Strawser house to the main north and south road. It was previously an angling road that led to the northeast from the Strawser home.

Five generations of the Strawser family have made Salem Township their home.

George Strawser (1843-1914)  
 Sherman Strawser (1864-1946)  
 Wade Strawser (1903- )  
 Herman Lee Strawser (1929- )  
 Vicki Lyn Strawser (1950- )

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Phillips came to Salem Township in 1901, buying 160 acres east of Parker Corners. They erected good buildings and improved the farm and lived there until 1949, when

they sold the farm and moved to Angola. They have no children. In 1915 Frank's brother, Charles A. Phillips (1866-1925), came from Noble County. He bought 80 acres across the road and was a successful farmer and stockman.

Mr. and Mrs. Arlie Libey have lived for thirty-four years near Parker Corners. Arlie's grandfather, George Libey, came to Salem Township in 1873 and settled in section 25. His father was Almon G. Libey. Arlie's sister, Alta, married Roy Sutherlin. They live near by in Salem Township.

In the early days Justice Allen, after the death of his wife in Ohio, brought his son Artemus to Steuben County. Artemus Allen lived in the home of Isaac Davis. Here he met and married Alvira Garrison, who was a member of the Davis household. Both Artemus and Alvira Allen were members of the Trinity Reformed Church. They were the parents of nine children.

The Allen families have contributed a great deal to the community life of the Township. They are prosperous farmers, and their various talents have been used in building and making a better neighborhood.

Six generations of the Allen family have claimed Salem Township as their home.

Justice Allen (no dates)  
 Artemus Allen (1849-1913)  
 Samuel Allen (1876-1934)  
 Gardus Allen Hanna (1907- )  
 Roberta Hanna Standiford (1928- )  
 Terry Standiford (1948- )

Dr. Mark T. Clay (1854-1914) began practicing medicine in Salem Center in 1880 and was the only physician in the village for many years. He died in his buggy at Little Rock, Arkansas.

Five generations of this family have lived in the county.

Dr. M. T. Clay (1854-1914)  
 Leo Clay (1883-1953)  
 Nihl Clay (1905- )  
 Mary Carolyn Clay Hoyer (1928- )  
 Jo Lynn Hoyer (1948- )

Mr. and Mrs. Owen Elson came to Salem Township from DeKalb county in 1916. Mrs. Elson's maiden name was Anna Thomson. They were active members of the Trinity Reform Church and have been interested in the enterprises of the community that were progressive and constructive.



In the early days in Salem Township a blacksmith shop was as important to the community as a garage is now. Thomas Miller came to Salem Township and located on Section 25, where he built a house and blacksmith shop. He was an exceptionally good workman, and not only shod horses, but sharpened grub hoes and saws. He also made cow and sheep bells. His great-grandson, Kenneth Clay, is the proud owner of one of these cow bells. After Uncle Tom could work no more, his son, Henry Miller, bought the old frame school house that stood on the southwest corner, and made a blacksmith shop. He served the public for several years and then moved his family to Oklahoma. The old blacksmith shop was torn down in 1924 by Logan and Dan Parker.

The following comment is contributed by Cora Shields. "In 1860 Jefferson Whitlock sold his farm on section 34 and bought 40 acres on section 21 from David Dunbar. There was a good log house and barn on it and Uncle Whit, as we all called him, built a frame shop, where he shod horses and did repair work of all kinds. Mrs. Whitlock was a daughter of William and Sally Bodley and came to Salem Township in 1851. She had a loom and wove carpets, which was greatly appreciated by her neighbors."

In 1915, Elmer Hovarter (1879-1948) moved to his farm west of Parker Corners. Mrs. Hovarter was Abbie DeWitt before her marriage.

In 1953 and 1954, a fire department was organized in Salem Township. The board of Directors are: Ward Sparks, chairman; Sam Askey, Wayne Hughes, Russell Jackson, and Guy Teeters. The team members are: Dan Parker, fire chief; Howard Daily, Assistant fire chief; Robert Allen, Donald Boyer, Gerald Boyer, Jack Clark, Kenneth Clay, Frank DeGraw, Rollo Halsey, Carrol Holden, Keith Holden, Darrel Hughes, Paul Tilbury, and Dan Wisel. The fire truck is a 1947 International, Model KB 7. It was delivered on January 23, 1954, from Swayzee, Ind. The truck chassis was donated to the Fire Department by the Salem Center Conservation Club at the purchase price of \$800.00, to start the ball a-rolling. The first cost price of the truck was \$7500.00. The tank holds 645 gallons of water and has 1000 ft. of hose. Uniforms have been purchased for each team member and their automobiles are equipped with blue lights for identity of duty while on the road to a fire. Many wells in the township have gone dry and the fire truck has supplied the farmers with tanks of

water. A building was erected in 1953-1954 just east of Parker's Garage to house the new fire truck. The labor was all donated as was the work of Henry Parker and Guy Teeters, who supervised the architecture of the building.

The American Telegraph and Telephone Cable Line is a coast to coast hook up, extending from New York City to Los Angeles, California. At various points along the way the cable runs underground. The underground cable extends from near Mishawaka, Indiana, to LaSalle, Illinois. The pole line was put up in late 1924, and the A cable was spliced up in 1925.

In 1934 a building was erected one mile east of Parker Corners which houses the equipment to add extra circuits. In 1950 a building was put up west of the school-house. Ft. Wayne was connected to the coast to coast cable, and as the circuit demand increased, more equipment had to be added. The Ft. Wayne Cable is underground. The American Telegraph and Telephone Company is the heaviest taxpayer in Salem Township.

There are two blacktop roads in Salem Township. Road 327 runs north and south across the western part of the township. The state took over the supervision of this highway July 8, 1935. From Road 327 east, across the township, is another blacktop road maintained by the county. This blacktop follows the cable line and is often called the Cable Line Road. In the summer of 1937, it was blacktopped east of Parker Corners, and in 1946 the blacktop was put on west of Parker Corners. The main streets of the little villages are blacktopped. The rest of the township roads are gravel.

Parker Corners is the center of many community activities as the school gymnasium is used for many programs, basket ball games, and meetings of various kinds. And as progress has changed all things, the history of Parker Corners has gone through an ever changing regime.

One day a Salem Township pioneer asked a Potawatomi Indian if they used any weather signs, and the Indian grunted, "Yes, cloudy all around, pour down in middle." And so it is with Parker Corners, Salem Township all around, and Parker Corners in the middle.

### Southern Sections

Over a hundred years ago the southern portion of Salem Township was largely swamp land and marsh, so the population centered in the northern

sections until the land was drained, cleared, and made ready for cultivation. As the years have gone by, practically all of the southern portion has been drained and productive farms are under cultivation.

In 1865, Samuel and Catherine Shaffer and their two children, Charlotte, age 5, and Levi, age 3, came to Salem Township from Stark County, Ohio. They settled on the second farm north of the county line on Salem Road. Samuel was a carpenter by trade, and, with the help of his good wife, he built his home and cleared the land for cultivation. In January of 1866, Charlotte became ill with spotted fever, and died in a very few hours.

Benjamin and Margaret Chilson settled north of the county line on the Salem Road. Church services were held at their house prior to 1866 when Samuel Shaffer and others built the church on the county line, which was called the County Line Church.

Between the homes of Ben Chilson and Jo Bell stood a little old frame schoolhouse. One of the pupils of this old school gives us the following account: "The drinking water was carried from Jo Bell's. How well we loved going for water; we could scarcely wait our turn. Mrs. Bell, the dear soul, often gave us candy or cookies. That may have been the reason for the rapid disappearance of the water."

In later years a brick school was built near the creek, known as Chilson School. The schoolhouse was then used as a dwelling and Mr. and Mrs. Jo Bell lived in it. It has been remodeled into a modern house, now occupied by James Getts and family.

Teachers mentioned at the Chilson School were Nellie Latson, Biff Cox, and Elsie Wisel. The Chilson School has been torn down in recent years.

In 1879, south of the Chilson School, a shop was built by the Shaffers where custom work was done. There was also a cider mill nearby. In August, 1890, a very hot dry summer, the shop caught on fire, along with a newly made strawstack and new bank barn which had been built in 1887. Men were threshing in the neighborhood and, with the water tank and bucket brigade, the nearby house was saved.

The shop was rebuilt by Levi Shaffer, and a sawmill, where they sawed lumber and pickets for fencing, was erected. There was also a cider mill where they made cider and apple jell.

About 1901, Levi Shaffer moved his business to Helmer where he operated a mill and lumber yard for many years.

Just south of Helmer lives the family of Ora Wright. Jephtha Wright (1788-1873) and his wife Betsy Emerson Wright (1787-1848) represent the first generation of Wrights in Salem Township. They were of Scotch and English descent and were from New Hampshire. Six generations have lived in Salem Township.

Jephtha Wright (1787-1873)

Richard Wright (1816-1857)

Ervin Wright (1848-1898)

Ora Wright (1886- )

Dale Wright (1914- )

Norman Wright (1942- )

Just north of the county line is the Neidig home. This farm was purchased in 1899 by Mrs. Neidig's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Sharp.

North of the Neidig farm runs the Wabash Railroad. At the turn of the century, a church was erected just north of the track. Win Reinhart donated the land for the church, and a Mr. Tatman was the promoter and minister. The church was of short duration and, in 1905, Elmer Neidig bought the building and made a barn out of the cement blocks and lumber.

In section 35 on the county line, lives the family of Elmer Shipe. Jacob and Martha Krum took up this land in 1848. Their daughter, Mary, married Henry Wilsey, and they had a daughter, Grace. Five generations of this family have lived on the same farm.

Jacob Krum

Mary Krum Wilsey (1861-1924)

Grace Wilsey Shipe (1882- )

Ford Shipe (1912- )

Esther Shipe (1941- )

The Gonser family has a long record in Salem Township. Mose Gonser (1829-1906) represents the first generation of Gonsers in Salem Township. His parents were David and Catherine Miller Gonser. Five generations of this Gonser family have lived in Salem Township.

Mose Gonser (1829-1906)

Robert M. Gonser (1866-1904)

C. Merle Gonser (1893- )

Robert D. Gonser (1917- )

Lizabeth Ann Gonser (1953- )

East of the Chilson bridge is the home of Carl Tubbs, who represents the third generation of



Tubbs in Steuben County. In 1855, Alfred and Christina Tubbs, of New York state, came to Steuben County accompanied by their son, Leroy Tubbs. Six generations of Tubbs have lived in Salem Township.

Alfred Tubbs

Leroy Tubbs (1824-1883)

Franklin Tubbs (1858-1922)

Carl Tubbs (1887- )

Arden Tubbs (1907- )

David Tubbs (1931- )

### Clubs and Organizations

Sociability, friendliness, and a common purpose have been a specific aim for the promotion of several clubs in the township.

One of the newer clubs is the Young Mother's Club of the Presbyterian Church. It was organized in 1947 under the leadership of Mrs. Jane Jones, when a group of young women met at Westminster House in Salem for the purpose of attaining a happier childhood for their children, and a better parenthood for themselves. Among those attending the first meeting were Eva Emerson, Virginia Boots, Evelyn Leas, Jane Jones, Geneva Alleshouse, Arlene Alleshouse, Myrtle Clay, Alice Parker, Pauline Shumaker, Mrs. Wayne Bowser, Pauline Elkins, and Byrdena Boots. This club is still active and meets every month at the homes of the various members. There is quite a large membership at the present time.

In January of 1943, some Salem Township women met with the mothers of service men in Steuben Township at Pleasant Lake to organize Unit 56 of Mothers of World War II. Mothers attending from Salem Township were Delphia Boyer, Abbie Hovarter, Delsie Phillips, Edna Allen, Bertha Warstler, Ethel Clark, and Bina Cool. Other mothers from Salem Township belong to this organization. They meet every month.

The G. A. Club grew out of World War I when some of the ladies who had worked for the Red Cross wanted to continue helping others. The first meeting was at the home of Cora Zent, and some of the ladies attending were Cora Zent Shields, Mary Miller (deceased), Abbie Hovarter, Helen Kimmell (deceased), Flora Wisel (deceased), Jane Summers (deceased), Edna Hanna (deceased), Julie Imus (deceased), Debbie Lepley (deceased), Cinnie Parker, Rilla Tumbleson (deceased), Vienná Teeters (deceased), Hattie Elli-

thorp (deceased), Dellie Strawser (deceased), Belle Stout (deceased), and Mary Van Pelt (deceased). They used to sew for families, mend, patch, and sew carpet rags. The G. A. C. stands for "Get Acquainted Club." They meet at different homes.

The Home Economics Club is an old club in the township, having started in May, 1923, at the home of Mrs. Blanche Amerman. Some of the early members were Viola Wood (deceased), Blanche Amerman, Carrie Chamberlain, Lou Phillips, Lillie Phillips (deceased), Estella Parsell (deceased), Mertie Wilson (deceased), Ona Emerson (deceased), Lizzie Butler (deceased), and Chloe Bovee. The purpose of this club is to bring Purdue Extension work to the women of the rural areas that they may enjoy better homemaking theories. The 1954 officers are: Delia McLain, president; Florence Holden, vice-president; Lila Holden, secretary; Joyce Harold, treasurer. They meet the first Thursday in every month.

The Conservation Club of Salem Township was organized on March 4, 1940. Ned Emerson was the first president. The purpose of this club is to give official care and preservation to the natural resources and wild life of the township. This club also takes an active part in the welfare of the community and has been a great aid in the promotion of the fire department. Jack Boyer is president at the present time, and Lawrence Milleman is secretary.

The various churches in the township have their aid societies or guilds. These groups serve public meals from time to time.

The Farm Bureau and 4H groups have a large membership in the township, taking part in many county activities. William Milleman is the Farm Bureau Chairman at the present time, and Mrs. Shirl Wilhelm is secretary and treasurer. Leaders in the 4H groups are Mrs. William Milleman and Dean Halsey.

The Salem Study Club was originally the D. N. D. (Doing Not Dreaming) Club which was a Sunday School Class taught by Mrs. Ora Butler. The club was started in the early 1920's. Margaret Butler and Mabel Greeno have been active members since the club started. The club meets every month and studies topics of the day. Florence Heffley is the president; Blanche Gosner, vice-president; and Margaret Butler, secretary and treasurer. (1954)



## Steuben Township

*By Mabel Smith*

Steuben Township, in the southern part of the county, contains nearly 36 sections or about 23,000 acres. Pigeon Creek flows irregularly from east to west across the township connecting several lakes such as Long, Little Bower, Big Bower, and Golden. The town of Pleasant Lake takes its name from Pleasant Lake around which the town is built. In 1906 the heirs of O. I. Clark sold their property to the Railroad Company for a gravel pit, and the surface dirt was stripped off and piled up in a ridge, and on this ridge have grown many good sized trees which makes it look like a natural hill. The lake which was formed by removing the gravel extends three-fourths the way around this ridge and is twenty or more feet deep in places. The property was later purchased by Vermont Finley, and upon this ridge he built a very pleasant summer home. This lake is known as Finley Lake.

Steuben Township was first settled in 1835 by Seth W. Murray, Isaac Glover, Alexander C. Britton, Reuben Warwick, James Forbes, Daniel Cummins, and a few others.

In 1836 there were more pioneers—Abner Winsor, Jonas Carter, James Perfect, Lewis, John, and Samuel Carter, Gideon Ball, and Wooster McMillan. In the next three years making homes in this township were Sylvanus George, Eber Thayer, Chauncey Clark, Orsemus Barnard, O. Smith, M. Brown, A. P. Clark, A. Beach, C. Chard, A. and J. Miller, James Long, G. B. Mason, Alanson Abbey, H. Finch, Justin Darling, Hiram Niles, R. Loomis, Thomas Lacey, J. Allison, F. Forbes, and Lucius Crain.

The first log house was built in 1835, the first frame house in 1836. The first school house was built in 1836 in the village of Steubenville, which was located about one mile north of Pleasant Lake on land later settled by Dr. A. P. Clark and now owned by Allan Landis. Lucy Avery was the first teacher. The landowners in this locality desired very much to have the County Seat at this place

but others outbid them and Angola was chosen, and soon thereafter Steubenville was abandoned.

In March, 1873, another town by the name of Steubenville was platted by Daniel Till and Samuel Teeters where the survey for the Canada Southern Railroad crossed the Fort Wayne and Jackson branch of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad, now known as the New York Central. As the Canada Southern was never built, the town failed to grow and when the Wabash Railroad later built along this route and established a round house and shop about 4 or 6 miles west of the crossing, they platted the town of Ashley. Steubenville gradually grew smaller until now there are only a few houses remaining.

When the first school was abandoned another one was built a short distance east of what is now highway 27 on the road leading east from Pleasant Lake. The business district of Pleasant Lake was at that time situated in the east end of town. The school building was later moved farther west and was the house recently occupied by the late Joe Chaudoin. A brick school was then built to serve both as high school and for the elementary grades on the ground where the school now stands. This building burned in 1915 and was replaced by the west section of the present building. The east section and the gymnasium were built in 1929 and dedicated February 13, 1930. There were at one time ten or more district, one room schools scattered over the township. These one room schools have all been abandoned and all pupils are brought by bus to the central township school at Pleasant Lake.

North and west of Pleasant Lake on the banks of beautiful Long Lake there is quite a village. It began as a summer resort under the name of "Moonlight Bay" but it is no longer just a summer resort as there are many year round homes. They receive their mail from the Rural Route out of Pleasant Lake. There is another small village at Golden Lake.

There are three churches in the township: the Baptist Church in Pleasant Lake with Reverend Russell Brayton as pastor, and the Evangelical United Brethren with a church in Pleasant Lake, and one known as Mt. Zion Evangelical United Brethren near Golden Lake. Reverend Raleigh Walker acts as pastor to both of these.

A Motel at the intersection of highways 27 and 727 is run by Marvin Rowe and his wife. Being



situated on the bank of Pleasant Lake and equipped for year round service, it is a very desirable place to rest as well as to fish.

A new project, a fish hatchery, was started this year just north of Pleasant Lake on highway 27, by Merritt Boyer. He has built eight ponds. In one have been placed 1000 fingerling rainbow trout. In another there are 1500 brown trout. In others are minnows which he hopes to sell to dealers for bait. In the building, 35' x 65', is an electric pump and 6 holding tanks. The water is pumped from a springfed pond 45' x 120' x 10' deep, which is located just east of the building. This water is thoroughly aerated before it runs into the fish ponds where the depth of the water can be controlled. The ponds can be drained and all fish removed as desired. Mr. Boyer is secretary at Tri State College and is doing this as a hobby.



### Otsego Township

*By Mrs. Blaine Willibey*

Otsego Township is bounded on the north by Scott, on the east by Richland, on the west by Steuben and on the south by DeKalb. It contains nearly 23,000 acres. Of this, nearly 1000 are covered by water, forming lakes. Fish Lake, or Hamilton Lake, covers part of sections 21, 22, 27, 28, and 33. Beside it is Balls Lake on Sections 32 and 33, Mud Spring Lake on 30, Johnson and Round Lakes on 16.

The life of the early pioneer was humble but glorious. They endured poverty and many hardships. When the first settlers arrived here they found a beautiful region of Forests. Houses, mills, schools, churches, and roads had to be built, but they were a brave people and were determined to go ahead.

The first settler in Otsego Township was John Fee, who came here in March of 1835, on the 13th day of the month. He built the first house the same spring. He would take his grain to Maumee, Ohio, to have it milled. During the time he was gone, the Indians would come begging for food and steal everything they could get, especially Mrs.

Fee's home made soap. West of John Fee's old home, where Edward Fee is now living, there is an old Indian Cemetery. It is laid out in a triangle, with a tree at each corner.

The next settlers were James Clark and wife. From then until 1840, the following persons settled in Otsego: James W. Jefferies, Henry R. Williams, A. Murray, Wm. C. Herrick, John Salisbury, J. H. Miner, Benedict Corey, J. Corey, Henry Coy, P. Clark, D. Robinson, Levi Gates, Edward C. Johnson, C. Burch, Gideon Ball, Samuel Tuttle, John Haughey, and Henry Jackman. In 1870 the population of Otsego was 1,318 and in 1880, 1,347.

The main crops at that time were corn and wheat. In 1881 George H. Carpenter erected a building for the purpose and became established in the general mercantile business at Otsego Center and built up a good trade. He was also postmaster of Oufa Postoffice, appointed in 1881, the mail being brought from Pleasant Lake to Alvarado on horseback, or horse and buggy when roads permitted.

Harlow J. Carpenter came from Chittendon County, Vt. The day he was 21, he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He came to Otsego and was a local preacher and was known as Elder Carpenter. After his death in 1883, the Church at Otsego was rededicated and named as a tribute to honor his memory, being called Carpenter's Chapel.

The first school house was built on section 16 and the first teacher was Amos Stancliff, who stayed with the different families during school months. The early seats were made of split logs placed around the sides of the room. The desks were rough planks and were placed on pegs driven in the walls; goose quill pens and slates did good service, and order was preserved by the old fashioned and famous switch. Many students became proficient in reading, writing, spelling, and arithmetic.

About a mile east of Otsego Center was, and is now, Haughey's Corners, named after Timothy Haughey, who built the buildings and moved there in 1861. Mr. Haughey taught school at the Cowen School, later the Corbin School, east of Haughey's Corners, in a frame school house. Now a brick school house stands there known as McCool school, which has been abandoned; the children now being taken to Hamilton School.

A mile north of Haughey's Corners, Levi Gates

settled on a farm now owned by Otis Gates, who is 90 years old. North at the end of the road is known as Cass Smith's Corners. Lewis Cass Smith lived on this farm of 89 acres until his death, he being a son of Robert Smith, M.D. Dr. Smith, one of the early physicians who settled on this homestead, lived a life of great usefulness, being the only physician in this part of the country. He travelled many miles on horseback through the forest to take care of the sick.

The people had many hardships to endure, clearing land, building homes and roads. The Indians were many, some were friendly and some were not. The early pioneer women spun and wove cloth and made their own clothes. They made gardens around stumps or in cleared places, but they were happy and had many good times together, traveling many miles to see and visit their neighbors.

If it were possible for these early settlers to come back now, they would see wonderful changes, which had their beginning years ago: roads, electric lights, cleared lands, and lake improvements, automobiles and tractors, airplanes and many other wonderful things which tend to make work of all kind more convenient. But, for all of this, perhaps some people are not as happy and do not enjoy life any more than the "Folk of Yesteryear."

## Richland Township

*By Oscar Imhof*



Richland Township is next to the smallest township in Steuben County, Indiana, Clear Lake being smaller.

Richland is in the southeastern corner of the county. It is bounded on the north by York Township, on the east by the state of Ohio, on the south by Dekalb County, Indiana, and on the west by Otsego Township, Steuben County. It is about two and one-half miles wide, east and west, by six miles long. It has twelve full and six fractional

sections, comprising 10,000 acres of very productive farming and grazing land.

There are no lakes in the township, but Fish Creek runs south through the entire length of the township.

John Douglas entered the first government land October 11, 1835. John Kerr and Robert Jackman entered land the same year, but Robert Jackman and family were the first settlers in the township, coming in 1836, and building a log cabin in the southwest quarter of section 30. Later in the same year Horatio E. Gordon settled in the township, and by the year 1840 there were about a dozen families settled here.

The first frame house in the township was built by Gera Goodale, who later moved to Scott Township, and still later became an honored citizen of Angola.

At the corners of section 17, 18, 19, and 20 is what is known as Richland Center or Alvarado. For many years there was a post office, general store, and blacksmith shop near the corners. The first school house in the township was built of logs at Richland Center.

Later there were five brick school houses built; one at Richland Center, one in the southwest corner called "Jug Handle", one in the southeast called Bethel, another one-half mile east of Metz called "East Metz," and the fifth was built one-half mile east and 2 miles south of Metz and called "Morgan" school. Several years ago a joint grade and high school was built in Metz by York and Richland Townships, and all children in both townships have been taken there.

The later trustees of Richland Township have been James Porter, David Aldrich, Clyde Dally, Nathan Metz, Shirley Fee, Oscar Imhof, Emery Buell, and the present trustee, Carl McKinley.

The first church built in the township was built at Richland Center in the year 1850 by the Methodists.

For many years there were three churches, one in the southeast of the township known as Bethel United Brethren; another in the northeast part known as Mount Pleasant United Brethren; and the Methodist at Richland Center. Later the church at Bethel disbanded, and the church building was sold and moved away.



# Angola and Nearby Towns



## "Angola for Mine"

By Hon. Glen Beatty

Elsewhere in this history you have read the story, and of the growth of the various segments of Angola, and this community. For it is all of those component parts of a community that make a city, such as Angola.

It has not been a phenomenal or spectacular growth, but sure, steady, and well balanced, with an eye at all times to the future, and its needs. The planning has always been made to include every segment of our community, the City, Schools, College, Industry, and Recreation. In our entire history, I have never known of any problem being approached with a selfish attitude, but always from the over all view, with its possible effect on the other segments, discussing and never forgetting, that a good city is one that is well balanced in every respect.

An outstanding example is the one of financing needed improvement as our city grows. It has been the policy for many years not to burden our people with long range debts, but to pay for our expansion as the need arises, which has made Angola stand out in our great state.

We pay tribute to the many men and women, some living and many that have gone on, for adopting and following this policy, for if it were not for their foresight and planning, we would not be able to follow that policy today. So you can see why I have been proud to have served Angola, and why it is Angola, Angola for Mine.

The following interesting information has been received through the courtesy of Mrs. H. S. Landon, of Angola, Erie County, N. Y. She tells us that the residents of Evans, in which this largest village is situated, have suddenly become conscious

of the name "Angola" and where it first originated. We quote.

"The Post Office here was instituted in 1853-4 when a Post Office of the same name had recently been discontinued, and when the Railroad went through here. This first Post Office was in the town of Collins, about 15 miles from here.

"In 1822, Jacob Taylor, a Quaker missionary, was sent from Philadelphia to the adjoining Cattaraugus Reservation and was appointed Post Master, and the Post Office was situated in his house."

"The name 'Angola' is found in the United States Postal Guide, in the following places, but originally came from Angola, a province in Africa, with an area of 400,000 square miles.

"Angola, Indiana, is the largest of the towns by this name in America, as it has now reached 2,800. (At this time, January, 1954, the population is approximately 6,000;) Angola, Erie County, New York, is a railway station south of Buffalo, on the east shore of Lake Erie, and has only 898 population; Angola, Kansas, has a population of 100; Angola, Louisiana, has only fifteen inhabitants; Angola, Ohio, has twenty; and Angola, North Carolina, has thirty-nine."

It is generally believed that Angola, Indiana, was named for the town of Angola, New York, as that was the section from which the town site proprietors of Angola, Indiana, came. It was platted by Thomas Gale and Cornelius Gilmore, June 28, 1838. It has always been the seat of justice for Steuben County. It was incorporated as a village in 1838. It is now a city, with a Mayor and city form of Government.

Angola, Indiana, one of the most "Up and Coming" cities in the State of Indiana, is the crossroads of two most heavily travelled highways, U.S. #20 and U.S. #27. These two highways, #20, connecting us with Toledo and Chicago, and U.S. #27, carrying traffic from the Straits of Mackinac, through Fort Wayne, Indiana, and on through to Miami, Florida, bring a large volume of business into Angola, as summer tourists, looking for rest and recreation among the many beautiful lakes of "Old Steuben."

Here, too, we have Tri State Airport, and Tri

State College, a coeducational institution, where nearly every nation in the world is represented.

With the Weatherhead Corporation, and numerous other fine business enterprises, Angola tops the list of "growing cities," both from an economic and recreational standpoint.

#### Angola's Contribution to Mother Machree

There's a spot that I love, in the County Steuben,  
A town in the valley, the green hills among,  
Where nature has painted the woods and the hills.  
No scene e'er so stirs me—no picture so thrills.

Sure, I love the green hills and the town nestling  
there  
With its lakes and its meadows, and singing birds  
rare

I love the dear days which in memory shine,  
O! Angola, Angola, Angola for mine!

#### Thinkin' of the Old Home Town

By R. E. Carpenter

The following poem was found among the effects of the late R. Elmer Carpenter, of New York, having apparently been written by him as an expression of his interest in the old home town. It was sent to us by a friend and is published here so that others may have the benefit of reading it.

I love dear old Steuben, and Angola, it's a darlin'.  
I love all the people there, and particularly Judge  
Carlin.

I was born in that old town, for thirty years it was  
my home;  
Sometimes I think I'll take a hike, and around the  
old town roam.

I'd like to go to California, where the sun always  
shines,  
And flowers bloom all the year on beautiful hang-  
ing vines.  
But I'll never forget Angola, with its handsome  
yards of sod,  
And where Judge Carlin decides points of law, and  
does not neglect his God.

The town was always lively, but is now a regular  
bee-hive,  
Although in the last ten years it has increased but  
thirty-five.  
It will stand forever, with its good folks it cannot  
sink,  
And finally to care for them they have Paul  
Weicht and L. N. Klink.

Before they go to Circle Hill, and their remains  
placed in the sand,

They'll be kept to a ripe old age by Dr. Sutherland.  
Gee, we used to think our time had come, when  
to school we went with a song,

And on our pants we felt the tingle of the hand of  
old Prof. Long.

But may it be many, many years, as the hearse  
rolls slowly by,

And we quietly meditate, both the good Judge and  
I,

That some day we'll travel along in that selfsame  
auto hack,

And never give a thought about to Angola coming  
back.

No, I'll never forget Angola, where more than  
seventy years ago

I first saw the light of day, and the town was a  
little slow.

God made good old Steuben County, with its beau-  
tiful lakes and springs,

Oh, let's all try to live so to reach "The Gate at  
the End of Things."



#### Brockville—The Fremont of Today

By Frank Hall

In November of 1835 the Plat was made for the village of Steubenville in the southwest corner of the County. On January 20, 1937, the Plat was filed for the village of Brockville (now Fremont) this being the second Plat filed in the County. Prior to that time the settlement had been known as "Willow Prairie." It is generally presumed that the name of "Willow Prairie" was given the settlement on account of the abundance of willow trees growing in the locality.

In the year 1851 the name of the village of Brockville was changed to Fremont. The reason for the change was that there was a "Brookville" in the southern part of the State in Franklin County. The similarity of the two names caused many mistakes in the handling of the mail.

The name of Fremont was given in honor of the



the "pathfinder" John C. Fremont. To Jeremiah Tillotson goes the honor of naming the town Fremont. Mr. Tillotson, who was an early settler and ardent admirer of the distinguished Officer and Explorer John C. Fremont, christened the Post Office and Village after him.

At present there is only one Brockville in North America. It is located in Canada, Province of Ontario.

The first entry of land was made June 23rd., 1834; three tracts of 80 acres each, on which the south part of the Village was located. The three tracts were entered by G. D. Palmenter, S. A. Palmenter, and John McCume.

The first frame building erected in the village was built in 1836-37 by a man named Goodwin. It was erected near the center of the village.

About the same time a Mr. Parker from Ft. Wayne erected a log building to be used as a store building. The location was where the Lippincott Drug Store and First National Bank buildings now stand.

It appears that Mr. Parker was the first merchant in the village, and one of the older inhabitants spoke of Mr. Parker as being a "thundering good fellow." It is possible some credit was extended in those days, and was the reason for this title. Mr. Parker's stock of merchandise was very limited. It was said that all his worldly possessions might have easily been loaded into a one-horse wagon.

To this building was added a frame building which was turned into a Hotel. It was used for this purpose for several years. Truman Gilbert was the first landlord. In those days Mr. Gilbert was known as "Mine Host."

In 1839 a Mr. R. A. Gaines came from the village of Lima, Indiana, (known as Howe today) Lagrange County, and brought a broken stock of merchandise that could have been put in a small wagon. He sold everything at a fabulous profit, built a larger store, and stocked it with merchandise he purchased in New York.

Mr. Gaines also built a building and it was used as a Hotel and was known for many years as the "American House." It appears the first buildings erected were removed or destroyed, as the American House was located where the Lippincott Drug Store and First National Bank now stand. This building was destroyed about 1909 and L. DeCaswell erected a brick building which was

considered one of the finest Drug Stores in the County. At the same time a building was erected at the east end of this lot, also being built of brick, and built by the Stockholders of the First State Bank. This building is now occupied by the First National Bank and an addition was added on the east in 1909.

In 1844 the frame of the First Methodist Church was raised. This building was not completed until 1851. The congregation used the "sleepers" for seats for some time. The foundation was put under the building in 1859. It is said the swine found a cool retreat in the hot summer months under the church until the foundation was completed. In 1872 this building was sold to the Evangelical association and moved to the east part of town.

In 1845 the first frame school house was built in Fremont Township. This building was afterward moved to the main street and occupied as a meat market. In 1856 a new schoolhouse was built, 30x36 feet in size, two stories high, and cost \$1,400.00. It was destroyed by fire August 16th., 1877. This same year witnessed the erection of the first brick schoolhouse, which, with the grounds, cost \$6,000.00. This building was located one block north of the main street where the present schoolhouse stands.

A. B. Goodwin was the first Postmaster at Brockville. In 1838 a Mail Route was established from Blissfield, Michigan, to Lima, Indiana. The mail was carried on horseback, and passed through Brockville, following the Vistula road. After the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway was completed to Coldwater, Michigan, a tri-weekly mail was established between Coldwater, James-town, Fremont, Angola, Auburn, and Fort Wayne.

In 1870 a Railroad from Fort Wayne, Indiana, to Jackson, Michigan, and Saginaw, was established. This road was known as the Ft. Wayne, Jackson, and Saginaw Road. This road went into the hands of the receiver and was purchased by the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern. It was then purchased by the New York Central Railway Company and is still in their possession. The Depot was scheduled to be located about 80 rods north of the present location. Erastus Farnam, being a man of some wealth, agreed to furnish the lumber for the building if it was located at the present site. The Railroad Company, not having much money at that time, agreed to this offer and the Depot was located at the present site. Mr. Farnam owned

and operated the grain elevator, a brick building near the Depot, and it was his desire to have the depot near him for shipping convenience. This building is still used as a grain elevator. At one time this was the shipping point for driving horses. Horses were purchased throughout the community, delivered to Fremont, and shipped by freight or express to Buffalo, N. Y., to market. Cattle, sheep, and hogs were also shipped from this depot to market in Buffalo. Saturday was usually the shipping day and several cars of livestock were shipped each Saturday.

The installation of electric lights was started about 1895 and lights turned on about 1897. The Light Plant was owned by the town and was located at the Piper Saw Mill at the south end of Mill Street. Later a building was erected on South Wayne Street between the Depot and town, where the town operated this plant until it was sold to the Northern Indiana Public Service Company.

There is a log house in the town that is occupied at present. This home is located at the corner of Pleasant and North Streets, and is owned by Mrs. Mable Meeks.

At one time a Saw Mill was operated by a Mr. Eaton. This mill was located  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles southwest of the Depot. This Mill was a water power mill located on the creek between Eaton Lake and Marsh Lake. The timbers of this mill were in evidence until the fall of 1954, when they were removed to make way for the Toll Road now being built. At one time Samuel Straw operated a Planing Mill just north of the present Lumber Yard. This Mill was of steam power, and Mr. Straw, being of an ingenious nature, managed to manipulate the steam whistle at noon and night so it played "Home Sweet Home."

There was a legend among the people here (particularly the fishermen) that when "Old Elder" made his appearance from the ground, spring was surely here. "Old Elder" was supposed to be a snake as long as a railroad rail, the body a foot in diameter, and the head in proportion. This snake was supposed to travel between the Cemetery Lake and Marsh Lake. This snake was often reported seen along the Creek between the two lakes and some had reported seeing this reptile swimming in the lake. When this happened the angler usually went to shore leaving the boat, fishing equipment, and jug of cider (if any was left) to "Old Elder" to dispose of as he saw fit. The writer

remembers at one time when he was a boy, with several others, going down the railroad track south of town to the "Old Swimming Hole." This was the usual custom in hot weather. On this particular day as they got near the swimming hole they met Emanuel Cope, a native of the community. Emanuel asked, "Boys where are you going?" "To the swimming hole," was the reply. "Boys, if you had seen what I did you would go back to town." "Mannie, what did you see?" "Old Elder with a sheep in his mouth near the swimming hole." I don't remember if we went down there again that summer.

At one time the town boasted two Hotels, six passenger trains a day, and two daily freight trains. Since the automobile has taken care of the method of travel the passenger service on the Railroad has been discontinued. At present one freight train a day is seen. The last passenger train to travel this road was July 17th., 1943.

Silas Doty was a character who lived in the early days of the community and established quite a name. It was his custom to take from the well-to-do and give to those less fortunate. If it was a plow or a horse that was needed for use, if it was mentioned to Doty, your want was soon supplied. For this, Doty often served time in some jail, but he still continued in this service. It is supposed he used to swim horses from the west side of the Island at Clear Lake to the Island and change their appearance, and at night time swim them back and place them or trade them as he saw fit. The first known murder in the community was in Jamestown Township about half way between Jamestown and Fremont. Doty was supposed to have killed a man by the name of Noyes and covered the body with brush. The body was found later.

Daniel Schaeffer came to Steuben County when he was 19 years old. He was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. At the age of 13 he was apprenticed to learn the baker's trade. The agreement being that he was to serve 6 years and to receive his board and clothes and 3 months schooling. At the expiration of his term he was to receive a suit of clothes valued at \$25.00. In 1855 he came to Fremont and opened the first Bakery. Some people living in Fremont today will remember the brick oven covered with earth to retain the heat. This oven and the bake shop were located on East Main street, where Viola Gould now lives. Mr. Schaeffer



also manufactured candy which he sold in his Bakery, also ice cream in summer. To a great many, Mr. Schaeffer was known as "Candy Dan" Schaeffer.

Fred Pifer was a wood worker of great skill and it is supposed that he was originator of the double boat. His shop was located one block north of the main street, on the west side of the street. His boat was so built that it was not heavy, but was made strong and was considered safe in a heavy wind, as it was very hard to overturn. The building has been moved to the main street and is used for a Restaurant on the north side of the street, east of the public square.

A Doctor Stewart was the first physician in the Township. He had great faith in the curative power of "roots and yarbs" and "sich." Dr. Griffin was the second physician and he achieved success by using quinine for the cure of fever and ague, instead of roots and herbs. Dr. Hendricks was the third physician.

Jacob Frost was among the early settlers and in 1840 he became insane, and shot himself with a rifle. His body was buried near where the Depot is located and was the first body buried in the Township. A tombstone was erected over the grave and stood many years and finally was broken. When the Ft. Wayne, Jackson, and Saginaw Railroad was constructed, the road bed was made over his grave.

The first pavement was laid in 1922 and was a strip of cement 20 ft. wide and extended south to the railroad tracks, north of town three blocks, west four blocks, and east to the railroad track. This strip of pavement has been widened and has been one of the great improvements of the town.

In 1937 a Water Tower was erected at the southwest part of the town for water supply for the town. For use in case of fire and for the convenience of the people, and sanitation, this has been another large improvement.

The Census shows the population in

1870 .....	392
1880 .....	632
1890 .....	700
1900 .....	711
1910 .....	700
1920 .....	729
1930 .....	802
1940 .....	855
1950 .....	957

As there are no schools in the rural districts at present, the students from Jamestown Township and Clear Lake Township are brought by bus to Fremont. Kinderhook Township, Michigan, joins Fremont on the north, and many students from the southern part of the Township travel by bus to Fremont. The enrollment in the Fremont School at this time is 550.

Three Lodges, The Masonic, Knights of Pythias, and Odd Fellows, and the sister Lodges, Eastern Star, Pythian Sisters, and Rebekahs, together with the Commercial Club and a new Kiwanis Club, are part of Fremont's Civic Life.

The town boasts of two Grain Elevators and Feed Mills, a National Bank, Printing Office and Weekly News Paper, Furniture Store, Bakery, Dry Goods, Shoes and Clothing, Three Hardware Stores, Three Restaurants, Two Auto Sales and Farm Implements, Two Barber Shops, Two Beauty Parlors, Three Doctors, Dentist, Dry Cleaning Plant, Shoe Repair, Two Machine Shops and Three Auto Repair Shops, One Saw Mill, One Lumber Yard, Seven Filling Stations, 2nd Class Post Office, a Factory for the manufacture of Plastic Products, Cement Burial Vaults, A Clock and Watch Repair Shop, Public Library, Floral Shop, and Frozen Locker Plant, also a plant for dressing poultry nearly the year round.

The Dial Telephone was installed in 1953.

At present the East and West Toll Road is in progress and is a mile south of town and crosses Road 120, 1½ miles west of town.

The town is proud of its two churches, The United Brethren\*Evangelical, and the Methodist.



## Hamilton Highlights

By Mrs. J. W. Learned

In 1834 two stalwart young men left their homes in eastern Ohio, traveling the Indian trail into the wilderness of Indiana in search of a homestead of their own.

One of the men, John Houlton, carried a sack filled with knives, nails, blankets, a flint box, etc.,

to trade with the Indians. He settled in DeKalb County.

The other young man, John Fee, carried in his knapsack, corn pone, and meat; while on his shoulder he carried a sack of corn meal, a powder horn and lead, along with an old musket and axe. He took up a tract of land in sections 32 and 33. The greater part of the town of Hamilton is now in those sections.

In 1836 Nicor Munson entered a tract of land, including the water power made by the outlet of Fish Lake; in all several hundred acres.

Soon after, Mr. Munson sold out to Dr. Tuttle, an agent for a company of Eastern capitalists, styled "Steuben City Co."

Dr. Tuttle, with the help of others, laid out the plat for a town and named it "Enterprize." The original plat extended north to the lake, south one block, or about where the Hamilton hardware store now stands, east to the creek, and west to the street this side of the cemetery.

It was at about this time that John Fee donated land for a cemetery and a church in the settlement. A Methodist Church was built and was used by this congregation from its completion in 1852 until the turn of the century, when they built their present edifice in 1899.

About 1837 Sidney Gambia built a house and a store building and stocked it with merchandise. He also built a grist mill and an ashery. The ashery was located on the bank of the creek, back of where the Gnagy Service Station now stands. Later the grist mill was torn down and a saw mill erected.

In 1859 John Fee bought the saw mill from Mr. Gambia and erected a flour mill on the site. It was about the year 1838 that the name "Enterprize" was changed to "Hamilton." It is claimed that the first post office in the county was located here, and Oscar Gambia was the first postmaster.

The first house built in Hamilton was a log cabin, the home of John Quicksell, and was located on West Bellefontain Street in the first block on the south side of the street. Mrs. John Fee carried the meals to the workmen on horseback from her home one and a quarter miles west of the village.

John Fee built the first house in the township in 1835 and lived there until his death, April 2, 1873. At the time of his death he owned 2600 acres

of land situated in Steuben, DeKalb, Allen, and Wells counties.

Among the first businessmen was Abram Beecher, a trader who came from Jefferson County, N. Y., in 1839. Oscar and Sidney Gambia were in business until 1841, when they sold to B. B. Long. They sold general merchandise. Reuben Lint had a hotel and liquor store.

In 1873 a survey was made for a railroad known as "Canadian Southern"; the railroad shops were to be located here. With this in mind Dr. Petre built a three story building on the south shore of the lake to be used as a railroad hospital. The depression came on about this time and the railroad was never completed. This building was used as an apartment house until 1946, when Robert Weaver and his wife, of Auburn, Indiana, bought it and remodeled it into a very picturesque edifice which is known far and wide as the "Hamilton House." Here, Mr. and Mrs. Weaver cater to hungry crowds during the summer months.

In 1884 while carpenters were making some repairs on the grist mill, one of the men came across a tin can and tossed it aside. A short time later a young boy, by the name of William Renner, passing by, gave the can a kick with his foot. Imagine his surprise on seeing a gold coin roll out. A closer examination revealed that the can contained \$250.00 in gold, and enough green backs of the issue of 1862-63 to total \$721.50. After the excitement had subsided, the question arose, "How did the money get in the can and to whom did it belong?" Older residents remembered that about twenty years before (1864) the then owner of the mill, a man by the name of Frank Cotton, was found one morning hanging from a rafter in the mill. He was known to have had several thousand dollars a few days before, and as no money could be found, the opinion was that he had been robbed and murdered. The finger of suspicion pointed to one particular man, but since there was no evidence to prove him guilty, the matter was hushed up and forgotten. But the fact that thereafter every door in that man's house was kept bolted day and night only strengthened the suspicion.

Since the first original plat of the town was laid out, there have been several additions as listed:

The Sewell Addition, southeast quarter of Section 33	1879
The Farley Addition, southwest quarter of Section 34	March 1891



The Gnagy Addition, directly west and adjoining the original plat north of Belle-fountain road	June 1892
The Renner Addition, southeast quarter of Section 33	June 1892
The Hagerty's Addition, southeast of original plat	Jan. 14, 1893
Renner's 2nd Addition, ½ south-east quarter Section 33	Apr. 14, 1893
The Cosper Addition, S. E. Quarter of the S. E. Quarter of Section 33	May 22, 1893

#### **Businessmen of 1880-1900 were:**

Truman Beecher, tin shop.

Andrew Stout, postmaster and cobbler. (While Mr. Stout was postmaster he studied medicine, and passed the state examination and became one of the best veterinarians in the county.)

Myer Andrews, drugs and liquors.

Mr. Zirkle, general store. He sold out to Simeon Duck, who later sold out to J. Wesley Thomas.

Dr. Schofield, drugs and saloon.

Dr. J. F. Cameron, hotel keeper and general practitioner.

G. R. Farnum, hardware.

Joe Sewell, undertaker. In 1892 T. H. Dirrim took over the undertaking business; he worked under Henry Weicht of Angola.

Mr. Dirrim also operated a furniture store. He sold out in 1894 and built the Fish Lake Hotel, on the corner lot adjoining Wolff Bros. Store on the west, which he operated for about five years.

Francis Klinkle, general merchandise.

Andrew Sewell, Flour Mill.

John Sewell, Grist Mill.

Frank Farley, Blacksmith.

Joseph Wiler, Blacksmith.

Hiram Sweet, Saw Mill.

Later, Lester Kimmel bought an interest in the mill and it was known as Sweet and Kimmel Saw Mill.

O. P. Brown had the barber shop and confectionery.

John Zeigler, Harness Shop.

#### **Newspapers**

In the 1880's, A. J. Stout had a hand printing press on which he printed sale bills, cards, etc. In the early 1890's a newspaper was published here, but the editor is now unknown. In 1901 C. M. Johnston came here from Ossian, Indiana, and started the "Hamilton News." The plant was moved from

Harlan, Indiana. All the equipment at that time was moved in a two horse wagon. Mr. Johnston edited the paper until ill health forced him to retire in 1945. He sold the plant, which now has all modern equipment, to Horace Husselman from Auburn, on November 11, 1945. This paper is published every Friday and is rated as one of the best newspapers in the county.

#### **Business Men 1901-1930**

William Chard was the owner of a lumber yard, but later disposed of a half interest to M. A. Howard, and some time later sold his half interest to C. A. Howard, which brought in the firm of Howard and Son. The Howards some years later disposed of their interest, and now it is known as Hamilton Lumber Co. Ora Kaiser is the manager.

C. B. Dirrim, Jewelry Store, Postmaster. The Post Office was then in the front of the building occupied by Learned & Son Bank. Mr. Dirrim was postmaster from 1901 to 1914 and from 1920 to 1930.

Ed. Hagerty, general store in the building now occupied by Gyllsdorff Drug Store.

O. P. Learned and Son, Banking, located in the building now occupied by the Hamilton Bank. The Learneds built that building in the summer of 1898, after a fire on Easter morning that year destroyed the frame building on that site, in which they conducted a general store in connection with the banking business. Mr. Learned sold the bank to Oscar Taylor whose sons J. L. and B. B., acted as cashier and assistant cashier. After the death of O. H. Taylor, the business was taken over by John L., Benna B., and a younger brother Russell. After the death of John L. in 1949 and B. B. in 1950, Russell and his wife bought the heirs out, and operated it with the assistance of his son Roscoe, and Miss Glyda Jackson until the time of Russell's death on March 2, 1954. Since this time, Miss Jackson has been employed along with Mrs. Taylor and Roscoe, and have been conducting the business.

In 1892 and 93 the Wabash Railroad was built, going through the south edge of the town; this is a direct line from Detroit to Chicago.

The spiritual welfare of the community is taken care of by the three congregations. The Methodists built their first church on the hill by the cemetery in early 1858 on land given to them by John Fee. They sold this building in 1898, and built a modern church on South Wayne Street in

Hamilton in 1899. This church has a membership of 190, a Sunday School average attendance of 125, with Leo Radcliff as the superintendent. A choir of 25 voices adds much to the enjoyment of the service.

The Wesleyan Methodists bought the old Methodist Church building on the hill, remodeled it, and have a very neat and commodious church. It was dedicated in February 1953.

The Christian Church was built in 1885 and dedicated in 1886 by Rev. L. L. Carpenter. This Church is very modern and has an active membership.

Our public school is rated very high scholastically, with a good corps of teachers, a modern Home Economics Department and shop, and a band that stands at the top of the list in its class in the State.

### Secret Orders

F. & A. of Masons Otsego "701" organized on February 5, 1914, has a membership of 113, with Robert Moore W. M., and Preston Teegardin S. W., Clarence Zeigler J.W., and Howard Wells, Secretary.

Eastern Stars "403" organized June 17, 1915. Membership at present is 138 with Ercil Crain W.M., Ray Hicks, W.P., and Myrtle Kissinger, Secretary.

I.O.O.F. No. 648 was organized in 1888 and has an active membership.

The Rebekah Lodge No. 315 was organized on October 18, 1889, and has a membership of 100 with Viola Beard as N.G., and Ivy Klibe as secretary.

K. of P. Lodge No. 228 was organized on August 18, 1889. They have a large membership.

Pythian Sisters was organized in 1894. They have an active and energetic membership.



### Hudson Happenings

*By Mrs. Frank Strock*

Hudson Happenings started in a spot designated as Millersburg. The very first business interest in this place was a saw mill erected in 1855 by Joseph and John Miller. The big "muley" saw in this mill

was said "to go up one day and come down the next." Later, the mill was owned by John Ritter.

About 1865 a small store was started near the mill by Michael Miller who later sold it to Ira Allerton, who enlarged the stock of goods and in 1867 sold to Keller and son.

On August 14, 1869, Hudson was first platted by Elizabeth Clark, Peter Miller, Samuel Clark, Ephraim Davis, Delila Clark, Philip Muse, and others. It was named North Benton by Elizabeth Clark, the grandmother of Mrs. Della Pike, age 89, of Hudson. This group caused this ground to be laid out in nine one-half acre lots, on the southwest quarter, section 31, in Steuben Township. These lots were platted and placed on record. Ira Allerton erected the first house on the plat, which he sold to a man named Davis, who opened a small store in part of the house. At about the same time, Mr. Keller opened a store on the plat, having purchased a lot from Mrs. Clark and erected a building thereon. Mrs. Clark lived on the east side of Main street in what was known for years as the Bohner property. Kellers lived in the house now owned by Ford Libey.

Fullerton, Fergusson, and Ropp made additions to the original plat. These were all on Section 31, Township 36, Range 13. The land on which nearly all business houses of the town were built was in Brugh's addition, Salem Township. The line between Salem and Steuben Township is the main street of the town.

Joseph Zonker owned 125 acres on the northwest section and he sold five acres adjoining the town for lots. He settled here in 1851 and the fine home they built is still standing, and is evidence of their ability to overcome difficulties. Besides being a farmer, Mr. Zonker was capable of making almost anything that is constructed of wood, and his ingenuity is shown in the planning of the house and other buildings on his land. The house is of brick construction. It is still in excellent condition and is now the Kistler Funeral Home, with their living quarters on the second floor. This was built in 1875.

An incentive for the purchase of lots was the progress of work on the proposed Chicago and Canadian Railroad in the Spring of 1873.

Leander Brugh engaged the County Surveyor to survey into village lots twenty-two acres of the southeast quarter of section 36, extending on the east to the township line between Salem and Steuben. This plat was on the farm of Mr. Brugh, who



was proprietor of the plat. The only buildings on the plat at the time of the survey were the dwelling (one story) and barn of Mr. Brugh. The fine brick home now owned by Dawson Fifer was built by Mr. Brugh in 1878.

The prospect of the early completion of the railroad was then quite favorable and lots were at once in great demand. However, the railroad was never more than surveyed and a road bed built. This ran east and west on the south edge of the ground platted for the town.

William Getz purchased a lot and erected a two story building south of the present Frank Leas home. Ira Allerton opened the first store in this building in the early fall of 1873. The second story served as living quarters for Wm. Hibbard and his sister. He was a harness maker. North of the Getz store was a building used for school purposes. This burned in 1873 or '74. North of the school was a store owned and operated by John Henry, who came from Auburn. Two Johnston families lived southwest of these buildings, and the saw mill was near their homes. The roller mill was located just north of where the Wabash railroad now runs, and the residences of Fullerton, Ferguson, and Henning were north of the mill. These have been remodeled and are still standing. Four places of business were built between the Henning property and the street running east and west. The corner building remains and is owned by Irvin Bair.

A lot west of the Brugh home was sold to J. S. Moore of Auburn, and he immediately began the erection of a hotel. This was completed and occupied in 1874. It was known as Benton House. Dr. Morrison took possession of it March 31, 1881. There were various other occupants down through the years. It is now used as a residence by Mrs. Hattie Osborne, age 85. She is the daughter of Annias Ropp.

The first hotel was opened on the Steuben side and was operated by Ambrose Johnston. It is now the home of Mrs. Sadie Shipley, age 95, and Mr. and Mrs. Claude Cochert.

At about this time residences were built by D. D. Baker, Ephraim Davis, David Ferrier, Ira Allerton, Daniel Dole, and a few others.

Nelson H. Way, the first wagon maker to locate here, erected a shop on lot number two. A blacksmith and a cabinet maker soon established places of business.

A town called Benton was located several miles

west of this place, causing considerable trouble with the mail. A number of meetings were held and it was decided to change the name to Hudson. Emory Johnston, now 90 years of age, was present at this meeting.

The first mail was brought twice a week from Waterloo. It was also hauled by dray from Summit at one time by George McDougal. Ira Allerton was made Postmaster on December 10, 1868. On January 15, 1875, David Ferrier was made Postmaster of the town under the new name, Hudson. The Post Office was located north of the stores. In about 1890 H. G. Garmire erected a fine new building for a Post Office and Harness Shop with ample living quarters above. It is now used for a wreath factory by John and Chas. Rowe. The Postmasters following Ferrier were: H. K. Leas, Frank Zimmerman, John Wagner, Joseph Ketchum succeeded by John Wagner, and H. G. Garmire. There came Samuel Harpham and Lena Weldy who were located in the Maude Orr building at the south end of Main street on the east side. When Jennings Luttmann became postmaster, January 1, 1946, the office was moved to the Norman building near the center of town. A rural delivery was started from this office in 1900. Bert Libey was the first rural carrier 1900-1903. Elmer Clark was the first one required to pass an examination for the position. He served from 1903-1909, five and one-half years. George Reinoehl was carrier for quite a long period followed by Warren Sprankel and Russell Collins, the present incumbent. Ralph Leas serves as substitute carrier.

In the summer of 1866, Alexander Fullerton came here from Fostoria, Ohio, and brought with him the entire machinery for a grist mill, including engines, boilers, burners, and so forth. It became known as the Hudson Roller Mill and was owned and operated by Mr. Fullerton and his son-in-law, Samuel Ferguson. The mill operated by steam power was started in December, 1866. Annias Ropp and Ira Allerton owned Mr. Ferguson's interest in the mill for a short period of time, and Mr. Fullerton's interest changed hands a few times, but after August, 1884, it remained as the firm of Fullerton and Ferguson for years. In the fall of 1884, very important additions were made to the plant to make it a first class flouring mill, giving it a capacity of sixty barrels of flour a day. A corn sheller was added with a capacity of one thousand bushels a day. It was not excelled in quality of work by any mill in Northern Indiana.

### Fires

The first school building burned in 1873 or 74. In December 1882, the general store of Ira Allerton was burned involving a loss to Mr. Allerton of about \$2,000 on goods. William Getz, who owned the building, carried \$1,000 insurance and he collected \$800.00.

The most destructive fire that ever visited the community, and it looked for a time as though the whole town would go, was one that started in the living quarters of Dr. Hamilton at 7 P. M., November 11, 1884. He occupied the second floor of the building as home and office. Household goods, surgical instruments, and in fact everything except an organ was consumed in the fire. The lower floor was used by William Ferrier as a drug store. Most of the stock was saved. This was purchased by Joseph Ketchum on November 18, and he moved it into the Marsh Johnston building at that time and opened for business.

Besides the Hamilton building which was consumed, Dr. A. G. Parsell and son, general merchants, lost their store building valued at \$1,000 and sustained a loss on goods of about the same amount. David Heckathorn lost a store building the same size as Dr. Parsell's, occupied by William Day as a saloon. Fred Howard had three billiard tables in the building which were burned. In December, Hamilton and Heckathorn were getting materials with which to rebuild.

### Schools

The first school was south of town near what is known as the Reformed Church Parsonage. This was destroyed by fire in 1873 or 74.

A dance hall north of the present Don Rundles home was then used for a school house. There were no desks, just rough wooden benches. The scholars laid their slates and books on the floor. The teachers were Amelia Clark and Frank Ritter. Both taught in this room at the same time, for two years. There were one hundred and twelve pupils enrolled.

In 1877 a frame building known as the "white school house" was erected in the central part of town in Salem Township on the location of the present Van Ransburg property. Later, a brick building was constructed in the northeast part of the village in Steuben Township. It was completed October 6, 1883, and a town meeting was held there that evening. In the course of time be-

cause of increased enrollment, two residences were utilized for school purposes, the Adam Bickel house in the northwest part of town, and what is known as the Mrs. Elmer Gorrell home in the southwest part.

On July 12, 1894, an ordinance was filed to the effect that the town had contracted for the purchase of Lots 69, 70, 71, 72, 91, 92, 93, and 94 in the Brugh's addition to Hudson, at the price of \$600.00, for the purpose of erecting a new school building thereon. Later in the month bonds were issued to the amount of \$2,500 for the construction of the building. The work went forward, and a fine two story brick building with modern improvements was built in the West part of town.

The grades and three years of high school, then four years, were taught here until about 1920, when the high school had to be discontinued because the tax rate for the town was at the maximum point and it did not bring in sufficient funds to meet the requirements of the state for high school instructors.

This building is still used for grade school work, the high school pupils going by bus to either the Salem or Steuben Consolidated Schools. The present teachers are Mrs. Rowena Ringler and Mrs. Delores Christoffel.

A list of the early teachers is hard to compile but we will name the following people who have served Hudson schools: Marshall Dunlap, Aaron Wolf, William Baker, Amelia Clark, Frank Baker, Lynn Weaver, Susan Dodge, Lute Wicoff, Ina Craig, Austie Mountz, Seth S. Avery, Charles Kettering, Sanders VanAuken, Enos Parsell, Professor Elbert Bradner, Allie Ewing, Jennie Grosbeck, Jennie Clink, Professor J. B. Munn, Reba French, Perth Cray, Mate Ewing, Professor Fred Frederick, Ethel Chard, Professor Eddy, Irma Sniff, Professor Hardy, Dessa Davis, Bernice Mountz, Winifred Walcott, Mildred Butler, Dale Hughes, Wilma Hughes, Hazel Wertenberger, Professor Jesse Fleming, Lucile Libey, Stella Pfingstag, Cleota Lint, Professor Harold Harmon, Katy Bodley, Ray Van Dusen, Dena Bright, Dolores Christoffel, and Rowena Ringler.

The first commencement ever held here was a township affair and was quite an outstanding event in the community. It took place in the Methodist Church on Friday evening, June 12, 1896. A class of twenty participated. Lacey's Orchestra furnished music for the occasion. Rev. E. B. West-



hafer gave the invocation. Each member of the class delivered a three minute production. The class address by Professor L. W. Fairfield was in his characteristic style and was highly appreciated by the class and the audience. The most frequent comment being, "It was not long enough." M. F. Wright, Trustee, presented the diplomas to the Salem Township graduates and was followed by Dr. F. C. Hamilton, who presented those of the Hudson Class. Rev. J. H. Albright of the German Reformed Church pronounced the benediction. The names of the graduates are as follows, those from Hudson being: Della Snyder, Worthy Shuman, Pearl Leas, Florence Day, Bertha Ketchum, Hurma Brugh, Vesta Kimmel, Bert Libey, Bertha Henning, Leone Miller, and Fred Kirkland, valedictorian. Names of those from the other township schools were: Chester Clink, Salutatorian, Dessa Metz, Etta Ringler, Grace Skelly, Mattie Clink, George Noll, Maude Doerrer, Eva Kimmel, and Maude Skelly. Elegant little floral souvenirs were presented to each member of the class by Mrs. Charles Kirkland.

### Churches

In the early days, religious services were held in various homes. Out of this came the organized churches. A log church was located across the road from what is now known as the county line cemetery. Mr. Joseph Miller, a local preacher, planned to conduct a revival in this log church. He invited Mr. John Johnston to assist him. Mr. Miller was a Methodist, Mr. Johnston was a United Brethren. Many were brought into the fold and some thought they should all unite with the Methodists because Mr. Miller planned the meeting. Not so Mr. Miller. He stood on one end of the platform at the front of the building and asked Mr Johnston to stand at the opposite end and then he told the new converts to make their own decisions as to which group they wished to join, and by going to either Mr. Miller or Mr. Johnston they would show to all present what their desire was. That was really the start of both denominations in this section.

The Methodist Church was organized by Joseph Miller, the United Brethren by John Johnston, and St. John's Reformed by Rev. John Kissel, all in the year of 1854. The Nazarene Church, a project of the Auburn Church, was organized by the District Superintendent, J. W. Montgomery, June 30, 1941. The history of each is given in the church section of this book.

Hudson became an incorporated town in 1892. George Simon was President of the Town Board and H. G. Garmire, Clerk. An ordinance of interest was passed August 27, 1895, for the building of sidewalks. The walks were to be built of oak or pine lumber, not less than one inch in thickness and four feet wide, with three stringers underneath, one on each side and one in the center, and not to be less than two inches thick and four inches wide.

An ordinance was passed July 17, 1906, compelling property owners to construct sidewalks of cement, according to specifications. These were to be built within ten days of receipt of notice.

In 1891, officials sought the right of way for the construction of the Wabash Railroad through this section. It was completed in 1893, and when the service was held to dedicate the railroad to the community, Jennie Ferguson drove a golden spike beside a tie in the tracks, where the railroad crosses the Township line. In 1907 the division headquarters were moved to Montpelier, Ohio.

### Business

The first harness maker was William Hibbard, and the first blacksmith, Jacob Slaybaugh. Later, Peter Miller operated a blacksmith shop in the south end of town near the Wabash tracks, and Al MacDowell one on the location now occupied by Noll Brothers. Others were William Miller, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Tasker.

A shoe repair shop was operated by Fred Ritter, Samuel Redman, Calvin Anderson, and, in later years, by Clark Deisch.

J. Pensinger opened the first cabinet shop in 1877. John H. Shaffstall and son Albert later dealt in furniture and pianos, and also had a mortuary. They were succeeded by C. J. Swank and Venus Streeter. Our present mortician is Kenneth O. Kistler. Other cabinet makers and carpenters were: John Dole, Annias Ropp, Daniel Dole, Alonzo Teeters, Bert Ritter, Guy Teeters, Sylvester Kogin, Irvin Bair, Arthur Dole, Ora Gilbert, William Heath.

House, carriage, and sign painters, and interior decorators were: Henry Kistler, Wm. Day, Amos Hissong, John Morrison, Clarence Reinoehl, John Rowe, Gene Loucks, and Ralph Roland.

Before the automobile age, two livery stables were located here and both did a good business. George Stofer, Grant Wilson, and Monroe Wagoner were some of the men that operated them.

George Kistler had a wagon, and repair shop in the early days. For a while Miller Brothers had a chair factory; Francis Johnson, a cane mill.

The first photographer and jeweler was a Mrs. Hornberger. Others were: "Granny" Smith, C. L. Withington, George Oberlin, Clyde Wilsey, Glen Bodley, and John Pattee.

The first paper was edited in 1893 by Charles Spake, and then by W. G. Kist. The Hudson Banner was edited by C. H. Weaver and daughter Sadie. J. W. Morrison was job printer.

During the railroad construction days, several pool rooms and saloons were located here.

A dray line was operated by several different men, including Ed Wilsey, Royal Bair, William Ferguson, Joseph Newman, Samuel Harpham, Ed Clark, and John Libey. Later, a truck business was started by Ellis McClish and son, Clarence.

Emory Johnston was the owner of an implement business at one time.

Mr. Nicolai opened a variety store here in the railroad days and was succeeded by F. M. Miller, and later by Martin Strodel.

Neil McIntosh will be remembered as our veteran news dealer. The Journal-Gazette is now delivered to subscribers by Dean Kurtz, and the News-Sentinel, by Lynn Tracey.

Elmer W. Ransburg was agent for the Packard Piano Company in this community.

In 1895 William Kline operated a bakery. Later this was destroyed by fire.

Restaurants were operated through the years by Carl Kreible, Sumner Bixler, Bert Ritter, Bert Libey, Ed Teeters, George Norman, Jack Buss, Al Libey, Dave Ling, Harry Cox, U. G. Libey, Bruce Kirkland, Elmer Grate, Joe Kauffman, Robert Mansberger, and Ford Libey. Mr. Libey now has a fine business place and handles groceries, meat, ice cream, and candy.

Plumbing and Tin Shop owners through the years were Scott Lautzenhiser, Perry Ritter, William Ackerman, Oscar Doty, Frank Kogin, and the present dealer, Arthur Loucks.

In 1896, John W. Miller operated a planing mill, feed mill and blacksmith shop in the northwest part of town.

For many years Armenus West served the community in the capacity of stone mason, and in brick laying, in which he excelled. Other stone masons were Joseph Greenough, Allen Brugh, and Al Libey. Rollie Alleshouse is now engaged in ma-

sonry and in building septic tanks. A second hand store is owned by Walter Ward.

The following were owners and assistants of millinery shops: Minerva Dole, Maude Frederick, Zama Weaver, Jessie West, Norma and Wanda Smathers, Lucretia Failor, Alta Libey, Maude Teeters, Ada Clippinger, Verda and Mae McClellan, and Rozella and Floy Mendelshon.

Dress Makers were: Minerva Dole, Anna Sockrider, Mary Buss, Frances Ketchum, Della Simon, and Zella Poorman. Clarence McClish and Clarence Reinoehl operated a movie theater at one time.

The barbers of the town were Willis Ketchum, I. A. Hathaway, (who was also a taxidermist,) Frank Hill, Mr. Lord, Melvin Merchant, David Failor, R. C. Haskins, Lloyd Gorrell, Harvey Hart, C. J. Swank, Delmer Ruckman, Boyd Ringler, and Chas. Parker.

The first owner of a meat market was Charles Ropp, followed by E. W. Thomas, J. D. Headley, George Simon, Freeman Wagoner, James Why-song, Calvin Wagoner, W. M. Watkins, Charles Gipe, Roy Turner, Ray McClellan, and Lincoln McKee. Some of these handled groceries in connection with the meat market.

Henry Sanders opened the first hardware in 1880, followed by Harry Diffenbaugh, Metz and Wallace, then Wallace and Britton, David Ling, H. C. Doty, Daniel Tritch, and Reuel Ransburg and son Van, our present hardware dealers.

The first drug store was opened by Dr. Miller in 1874, who continued in the drug and grocery business for several years. Following him was Wid Ferrier, Zimmerman's, Joseph Ketchum, John Wagner, who employed Mamie Ferguson, a registered pharmacist. She also assisted in the post office, which was in the same building. In 1892 Sumner Bixler erected a fine brick structure on the corner east of the Brugh home and opened a drug store, employing Ashton Stamen. Other druggists were: Charles Secor, A. B. Davis, Kilgore and Skinner, and Noah Bash.

General Merchants have been David Ferrier, Murray Markel, Emory Metz, A. G. Parsell and son, Abraham Diffenbaugh, William H. Markel, and Mrs. Sam Arnold. Henry Lawson moved his stock of dry goods and groceries to Hudson from Summit about the first of March, 1897. He occupied the Ed Stofer building. Later he rented the Emory Metz building and the one adjoining it on the



north, and did a thriving business for a number of years. His employees were: Charles Ransburg, Bertha Ketchum, J. W. Morrison, Bert Libey, Ada Ketchum, Jessie Ransburg, Charlie Miller, Norma Smathers, Alice Garmire, and Imo Clark.

B. W. Kirkland and sons, Charles and Clyde, came here from Pierceton, Indiana, about 1892, and opened a general merchandise store which served the community in a splendid way for many years. Their employees were: William Simon, Lloyd Hamilton, (who later had his own business place here) Charles Sturgis, Jessie Ransburg, Fred Kirkland, Zama Weaver, John Libey, Ada Ketchum, Lloyd Failing, and Boyd Kirkland.

B. W. Kirkland also operated a lace rack factory and was granted a patent on his display lace racks.

Others operating either general stores or groceries were Ed Stofer, L. A. Henning, Ed Clark, Lloyd Hamilton, Russell White, Lincoln McKee, Johnson and Vanderbur, Ford Libey, Marshall Dole and son Hal, Arden Tubbs, and James Greenawalt, one of our present genial merchants who purchased the Dole Stock and opened a general merchandise store January 1, 1949. Those employed by him have been Walter Wood, Dick Tracey, Raymond Frederick, June Parr, Marie Brown, Anna Holsinger, Raymond Tracey, Charlene Holsinger, and Lois Swift Sassinella.

In 1903 Frank Strock came to Hudson from Wooster, Ohio, and opened the Grain Elevator to serve the large farming district. His son, Paul, has been associated with him in the business since July 1, 1933. Those employed there have been: Harry Sloat, John Libey, Clarence Reinoehl, Ancil Buss, Orton Hecht, Arthur Hedgeline, Robert Malone, Noble Wall, and the present employee, Arlie Libey.

The growing of acres of onions, potatoes, and other vegetables created a need for large storages which were built west of the Elevator. The first one was erected by Waterman, Hardy, and R. C. Pfingstag. Later, Frank Strock bought Waterman's interest, and those three built the second storage. They are now owned by Hardy, Strock, and V. R. Pfingstag. The muck farmers were: William Everts, Carl Hardy, R. C. Pfingstag, Frank Strock and sons, F. H. Clark, R. J. Clark, A. W. Hawes, George Norman, W. C. Hawes, Arden Tubbs, V. R. Pfingstag, D. J. Norman and son, Guy Shire and son, Robert, John Clark, Jennings Luttmann and son Donald, and Robert Hardy.

General farming, consisting of wheat, corn, hogs, sheep, cattle, and dairying, is carried on in abundance. Four milk trucks from Hudson pick up milk from farms of the surrounding communities and deliver it to milk plants in Kendallville, Butler, and Fort Wayne. The truck owners are: Don Noll, Dorsey Fifer, and John Paul Blackburn.

Hudson had a cream station at one time, and the various operators were: Harvey Hart, Zama Ritter, and Cora Delong.

In 1903, both John Wagner and Chas. Kirkland were running coal yards. In 1904 Frank Strock bought out Wagner and later Kirkland. In 1918, he sold to A. N. Ellis, and later dealers were B. J. Allamong, L. W. Bonbrake, Roy Hammond, and the present owner, Roy Luttmann. He employs Alden Tracey.

The lumber yard is located between the Wabash Depot and Hudson. Local owners have been Chas. Reed and Paul Snyder. It is now owned by the Angola Lumber Company, and is operated by Dayton Lockwood.

At the start of the automobile age, Roy Waterman built the brick garage on the site of the Al MacDowell blacksmith shop, and it is now owned and operated by Dawson and Herschel Noll, as a garage and service station. Waterman was followed by Floyd Faulkerson, Tom Robinett, Mr. Knoder, Forest Chamberlin, and Clyde Monroe. The south corner of the front has been converted into a room for barbering.

William Beigh, many years Standard Oil agent, built the Standard Station on the corner of the Annias Ropp property. It was first operated by Dawson Gorrell, then Beigh, and followed by Paul Mansberger, Lee Clark, Manford Brewer, and Lamar Kressley. It is now the Fretz Automotive and Standard Station. The Standard Bulk Station has been operated by William Beigh, Gay Brown, and Lawrence Chorpennig. About 1946, Noll Brothers opened the City Service Bulk Station west of town. At the south edge of town, Robert McKee owns and operates a garage and the Shell Service Station. Walter Wood operated the Gulf Station at one time, and Richard Holsinger owns and operates the Marathon Station at the north edge of town.

### Professions

The first Doctor to serve the community was T. G. Matheny, followed by T. Ray Morrison, H. Ruth, Dr. Lipes, A. J. Kimmel, F. C. Hamilton, Dr.

Wright, Dr. Valentine, B. A. Tracey, John Foulk, R. K. Ameter, and J. B. Shipley.

Dr. Fred Bradner was the first dentist to locate in Hudson. Dr. C. M. Snowberger practiced his profession of dentistry during his vacation in 1899 in an upper room of the Bixler building. He opened a permanent dental office here in 1900. Later, he had an office constructed on the east side of Main Street. He closed his office June 9, 1945, after many years of splendid service to the community. Dr. S. J. Purviance is the dentist here at the present time.

A number of Hudson young ladies trained for the Nursing Profession. Among these were: Grace MacDowell, Imo Clark, Norma Smathers, Frances Fanning, Ruth Libey, Gayle and Mary Lois Rundles, Erma Hill, Doris Clark, Orpha and Doris Hedglin and Georgene Deller.

Professional beauticians located here were: Opal Beigh, Lela Strong, Louise Kogin, Irene Fifer, Fern Herzbruch, and Vi Tressler.

#### Organizations

In 1883 the G. A. R. Post, 183, was formed.

In 1896 the Women's Relief Corps was organized.

The Knights of Pythias was organized in 1890, and the Odd Fellows in 1892. Both had women's auxiliaries but all disbanded several years ago.

In 1910-11, the Ginnivan Dramatic Company was located here and played their first shows of the year. They disbanded several years ago.

#### Band

Hudson had a lively band in 1881, but the names of only three players can be recalled; Charles and Grant Dunlap and John Beck.

In 1909 another band was organized and a band stand erected where the Standard Service Station now stands. Members of the band were Guy Bodley, Director; George Reinoehl, Bert Ritter, Glen Bodley, William Smathers, David Ling, Paul Dole, E. E. Clark, Mr. Sawyer, Don Harpham, Boyd Kirkland, Roy Waterman, Roy Skinner, Chester Camp, Mr. Lord, Clarence Reinoehl, Albert Shaffstall, Harry Sloat, and Frank Strock.

#### Lodges

Hiawatha Lodge No. 528 F. & A. M. was organized May 23, 1876. The first officers elected were: Seaman L. Dart, W. M., Eli D. Cox, S. W., John C. Henry, J. W., Charles Schimpff, Treasurer, John H. Gray, Secretary, William Wilsey, S. D., Martin V. Leas, J. D., Peter Miller, Tyler.

The present officers are: John B. Shumaker, W. M., James Greenwalt, S. W., Dale Parr, J.W., Paul Strock, Treasurer, Frank Strock, Secretary, Walter Hanna, S. S., John Clark, J. S., Verl Pike, Tyler. Present membership is 119.

On Wednesday evening August 24, 1910, in the Masonic Hall in Hudson, by authority of the Worthy Grand Patron Order of the Eastern Star, State of Indiana, and under the direction of the Special Deputy Thomas J. Creel, a meeting of the petitioners for a dispensation for a chapter, Order of the Eastern Stars to be known as Hudson Chapter, was held for the purpose of instituting said Chapter. After a few remarks, the following officers were appointed to assist: Grand Marshall, Edna Creel; Grand Chaplain, Wilma Elston; Grand Organist, Ida Reed; Grand Secretary, Bertha Everts. After prayer by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Patron proceeded with the ceremony of instituting the Chapter. The Grand Secretary read the petition of the dispensation and called the roll of the petitioners, which was as follows: Ada Strock, Isa Fisher, Martha Frederick, Addie Childs, Etta Doty, Cora Kirkland, Phoebe Harpham, Maude Guthrie, Ancil Murden, Maggie Murden, Vesta Gardner, H. E. Gardner, Cora Barker, H. E. Barker, Ada Whysong, Lydia Leas, John Seward, Clara Seward, Margaret Kirkland, Bertha Everts, William E. Everts, Agnes Watkins. The following were selected and recommended to serve: Addie Childs, as W. M., Ancil Murden, W. P., Ada Strock, A. M.

Frank Strock, Hiram C. Doty, Ida Whysong, John Whysong, Earl W. Vickery, and Mae Vickery joined the Chapter before it was constituted.

A Charter was issued to the Order of the Eastern Star No. 373 on April 26, 1911.

On Friday evening June 2, 1911, in the Masonic Hall, a special meeting of the members of Hudson was called for the purpose of constituting said Chapter to be known as Hudson Chapter No. 373. Thomas J. Creel, special Deputy, presided during the ceremony. The following officers were named to assist: Edna Creel, Grand Marshall; Agnes Hartsuck, Chaplain; Blanche Malcombe, Organist; Mayme Wood, Warder; Alphonso Wood, Secretary; Frank Strock, Sentinel. The officers of Hudson Chapter were installed and conducted to their stations by Edna Creel, Grand Marshall, and Agnes Hartsuck, Past Worthy Matron, as installing officer. During 1911, seven members were added to the membership, as follows: Glen Bodley, Verl



Pike, Samuel Harpham, Henry Childs, Calista Haskins, Flora Betts, and Mabel Haskins.

The present officers are: Helen Fretz, W. M., Byron Fretz, W. P., Hildred Shire, Associate Patron; Lena Weldy, Secretary; Mabel Haskins, Treasurer; Wava McKee, Ada; Pauline Shumaker, Ruth; Helen Strock, Esther; Dorothy Dole, Martha; Marjorie Weimer, Electa; Dorothy Kistler, Organist; Ellen Hughes, Chaplain; Isabelle Greenwalt, Marshall; Maxine Collins, Warder; and Paul Strock, Sentinel.

### Clubs

Through the efforts of Mrs. Berniece Faulkerson a Study Club was formed in the Fall of 1919. By a suggestion of Mrs. Esther Whittig, it was named "The Pollyana Club," and the members have continued a "Just be Glad" fellowship for thirty-four years. The Charter members were: Ida Barton, Opal Beigh, Perth Clark, Sybil Clark, Ethel Camp, Jeanette Fanning, Esther Hart, Ave Hamilton, Louise Kogin, Grace Leas, Marie McClish, Zama Reinoehl, Ada Strock, Golda Sloat, Alta Sutherlin, Esther Whittig and Blenn Smathers. It now has a membership of twenty-four and they are as follows: Perth Clark, Blenn Smathers, Esther Hart, Ada Strock, Louise Kogin, Alta Sutherlin, Irene Fifer, Dorothy Dole, Mildred Hawes, Zema Sparks, Dollie Gorrell, Rose Melvin, Bertha Anderson, Dorothea Loucks, Isabelle Greenwalt, Doris Wilson, Grace Rundles, Marie Brown, Elnora Kelly, Dorothy Kistler, Helen Strock, Dolores Hughes, Dessa Ringler and Dottie Monroe. The Club has been a cultural benefit to the members, the homes, and the community.

Through the suggestion of Rose Ella Mills, a younger group met and organized "The Work and Play Club" in October, 1948. The membership was later increased to twenty and the present members are: Vivien Shire, Rosina Noll, Isabelle Noll, Hulda Libey, JoAnn Coggeshell, LaVera Noll, Bobbie Alleshouse, Martha Fifer, Twylo Norman, Connie Alleshouse, Betty Pike, Isabelle Greenwalt, Elaine Hartman, Reta Hayward, Bessie Richards, Vi Tressler, Phyllis Fifer and Helen Ransburg and Janet Stoy.

The Hudson Economic Club, which is one of the very interesting Clubs of Hudson, is now in its twenty-first year. In the Spring of 1933, a group of ladies met at the home of Mrs. Jennings Luttman, and organized the thirteenth Home Economic

Club of Steuben County. Mrs. Valta Emerson of the Salem Club was the Sponsor. The following officers were elected: Mrs. Rozella McConnell, President; Mrs. Esther Hart, Secretary-Treasurer; Mrs. Beatrice Luttman, and Mrs. Grace Rundles, Leaders. The interest of the Club has been chiefly for the home life and the good of the community. Willing to help in time of need, the Club has always contributed to the local, state, and national, worthy causes with gifts of money and clothing. The membership is now about thirty, and new members are always welcome.

The Civic Club was organized in 1948 with the following officers, Marshall Dole, President; Kenneth Kistler, Vice President; and Orval Bair, Secretary-Treasurer.

A Homecoming was held July 4, 1948, sponsored by the Civic Club, the proceeds going to start a park. It is located across the street from the United Brethren Church on what was formerly the location of the small brick school house. Mrs. Della Libey turned the first shovelful of dirt at the Dedication Service on Homecoming Day. Rev. Burkett and Rev. Rex Custer were the pastors that participated in that service. A hedge and several shade trees have been planted, a fire place built, picnic tables, and play ground equipment added. A portion of the ground is used for baseball. Six Homecomings have been held since 1948. The present officers of the Civic Club are: Irene Fifer, President; Doris Wilson, Vice President; and Orval Bair, Secretary-Treasurer.

The Lions Club is very active here. They sponsor the "Little League" and "Pony League" baseball teams.

In the early days, the United Brethren erected a building for worship on what is known as the Dave Leas corner, north of town. Later, this building was moved to a lot south of the Joseph Zonker property. This became a general purpose Hall. The G. A. R. met there regularly, Town Meetings were held, Medicine Shows, dances, school plays, and play parties. Later, it was used as an onion storage. Not long ago, C. A. Hardy gave it to the United Brethren Church and it was converted into a very fine Fellowship Hall with auditorium and dining room combined, and a fully equipped kitchen.

In 1915, a new Town Hall was built just west of the Noll Service Station. It is a spacious stucco-finish building erected for \$7,000. The first floor has a stage and auditorium which has proved its

worth to the community for many years. With the exception of the summer months it is used each week for moving pictures on Saturday evenings. The basement has been remodeled into a modern kitchen and dining room. Many public, civic club gatherings, and Home Economic meetings are held here. The fire hall is on the South end of the building. This houses the fire truck and other equipment. There are many large cisterns distributed over town for fire protection as the town does not have a public water system. The present fire chief is Don Noll. The town has had electricity for many years from Indiana Public Utilities. The greater percentage of the homes are furnished with modern conveniences from their private water systems. The members of the present Town Board are Marshall Dole, Van Ransburg, V. R. Pfingstag, and Clerk Paul Mansberger.

In 1880, the population was about 250; in 1885—400; in 1894 it was estimated at 1,000, and the present population is approximately 1,450.

Just folks they are that walk our walks from day to day

Yet different from the masses we would say  
Because we live as heart to heart  
And not as in cities each one apart.

Our sorrows and our joys are shared  
Our belief is in the One who cared;  
Small though our town may be  
Much beauty in God's world we see.

AGS.



## History of Orland

By C. D. Ernsberger

The town of Orland is situated on parts of Sections 20 and 29 in Millgrove Township, Steuben County, Indiana.

In the Spring of 1834 John Stocker of Windham Co., Vermont, while prospecting for a home for himself and family, came to this locality and finding the rich Burr Oak openings and fertile lands about, including what is now the town, persuaded members of his family and neighbors

back in Vermont to locate here. Consequently there arrived in the summer and fall of 1834 several families, i.e., Benjamin Pierce and wife, Abel Blanchard and wife and family of five children, John Stocker and wife and four children, George Palmenter, wife and child. S. A. Palmenter came here and located.

These people and those who came later were largely from Vermont and so the settlement was called at first "The Vermont Settlement."

During the year 1835 there came to the Vermont Settlement Chester Stocker, wife and two children; Nelson Newton, wife and two children; S. C. Sabin; Elisha Sabin, wife and one child; Miles Coe, wife and three children; Alexander Ward, wife and three children; all from Vermont; Eliza Eaton from Massachusetts; Henry Depue, wife and nine children from Ohio; and J. C. Cutler from New York City.

In the year of 1836 the Vermont Settlement grew faster than theretofore and Timothy Kimball, wife and seven children came from Michigan; Alexander Chapin, wife and three children from Vermont; Josiah Chapin and wife, Cyrus Choate, wife and four children, Elephalet Warner, wife and two children from Ohio. It will also be noted that the township east of the river received a large number of settlers the same year. The settlement having grown, the government established a post office and already having one Millgrove in the State the name of Orland was chosen by the opening of a hymn book at random by the good church fathers, and Orland, the tune, became the new post office. Alexander Chapin was appointed Post Master. He was a staunch Whig appointed under a Democratic administration.

Now the river which borders Orland on the east and north is named Crooked Creek in Indiana and after crossing the Michigan line is called the "Fawn." North of Orland in the year 1838, Deacon Timothy Kimball built the first grist mill, which was of great value to the early settlers, grinding their meal and later bolting their flour, using the water power from the river.

Although the first houses built in the early settlement were of logs built by the Palmenters and Stockers, the first frame house was built by Mr. Chapin and was located in the northeast corner of the intersection of the Vistula and North and South Wayne streets. Afterward Mr. Jonas Twitchell enlarged and made a home for his



family. This house has long since made way for the store buildings now occupying the site. John Anderson built a small house on West Street and afterward it became a part of William Van Huse's residence, but was destroyed by fire in the early 1900's. The house was rebuilt and today is owned by Kenneth Sellers' Family. Cyrus Choate built a small frame house on the south side of Vistula Street, east of the intersection, and it was in this building a great deal of the early business was transacted. The building has long since been erased. Let us list for you some of the "Firsts" that happened in our town. The first store or stock of goods was brought here and opened for sale by Captain Samuel Barry in the winter of 1836. A small stock of goods was brought by the Carletons the same year on the east side of the river.

The first general store was opened in February, 1837, by Dr. James McConnell and G. D. Parmenter.

The first Blacksmith shop was a shanty on the west side of Wayne St., built by Andrew Lundstrum, a young Swedish mechanic. The blacksmith shop, to the early settler, was one of the most used shops of any and a good mechanic was a very valuable asset to any community. Even as late as the year 1916, there were three such shops in Orland owned by George Fisher, Oliver Stayner, and Malcolm Light respectively.

Sullivan U. Clark built the first tavern or hotel on the southwest corner of the intersection of Vistula (S.R. 120) and South Wayne (S.R. 327) streets. About two years later it burned but was replaced by Mr. Clark. In the month of December, 1909, the entire corner was leveled by fire, including the old Burnham Hotel, Jennings General Store, a bakery, the three story Thompson Hall which housed the Masonic body, a furniture store and cabinet shop; and by the way that was the only three story building ever erected in Orland. Today (1954) an auto Service Station, a restaurant, a welding shop, and two story Masonic Temple grace the corner.

Deacon Timothy Kimball built the first grist mill on the river north of town in the year 1838. This mill was a great help to the early settlers and in after years was made a "Model" flouring mill by George P. Smith of Hillsdale, Michigan. Later, it was sold to Robert N. Sanderson, Sr., who built on to the mill, placing an electric generator which gave power to the community of Orland.

Lloyd W. Jacob purchased the mill from the Sandersons in the year of 1916 and after operating a few years sold out the business to what now is the Northern Indiana Public Service Co. The mill was razed and some of its timbers are in one of the funeral homes in Angola.

The first Doctors in the "Vermont Settlement" were Dr. James McConnell who came in 1836 and practiced until 1837 when he was elected the first Clerk and recorder of Steuben County. Dr. Peter C. Carleton settled east of the river and had a large practice. He now lies in the Carleton Cemetery near which he lived. Dr. Madison Marsh later moved into the settlement, coming from the Auburn Settlement and practicing here a number of years. Orland has always been blessed by having had outstanding medical men. Along with those already mentioned were Drs. S. D. Richardson, George Keeslar, Wilkinson, Morr, Smith, Dando, H. A. Nichols, Dr. Sidney Quick, Thomas Sloss, and Dr. A. W. Goodale. Dr. Goodale was the last established M. D. and rounded out many years in the service of the community like so many of the former doctors.

The first mail route established in the county came from Lima (now Howe) through Lexington, (now Brighton) to Millgrove (Orland), Jamestown and Brockville (now Fremont) and so on into Vistula (now Toledo) and carried on horseback via the Vistula road, now State Road 120 in Indiana.

The first cabinet and furniture shop was opened by a deaf mute by the name of Roswell Farwell and was run later by the Thompsons. The business was discontinued many years ago.

Nelson Newton and Chester Stocker were the first to make pumps for the settlement and they were made of wood (tamarack) and in the nude (no paint), but served the wells of the community well.

Sullivan U. Clark was the first tailor in the early settlement.

The first school house was a frame building located on the west side of North Street in front of Memorial Grove Cemetery. Besides school, it was also used for religious meetings. Later, this building was used as a blacksmith shop, and carriages were made here with some addition to the building. This building was torn down in recent years. Just across the street from this building S. U. Clark owned a shop where carriages or "buggies" were made for the residents of the town and

county. The old brick shop is gone but the house just south of the old shop still stands, with some modern "fixins." The Girton Cement Block factory now is located on the brick shop site.

The first school teacher was Miss Eliza Eaton, the sister of Mrs. Elihu Sabin, who with her husband was an instructor at the price of \$1.25 per week.

The people of Orland were much in favor of free schools and in 1850 the Northeastern Indiana Literary Institute was formed and was under the supervision of the Baptist Church of Orland. Later this school was called the Orland Academy. This school was patronized by students from the locality and from a distance. There, students of all religious faiths attended and the school was known far and wide for its splendid work, and continued its operation until 1878, after which year it was merged with the public school system of the township.

In the early history of the Settlement, Captain Samuel Barry's name is mentioned as one always ready with his purse, and willing to labor for the good of his town. His good works are proved by his great help to the Baptist Church and the Orland Academy. He was also active in helping the fugitive slaves in their bid for freedom via the "Underground Railroad" to Canada. He was an active agent along with others in the settlement and S. U. Clark, who kept the hotel, kept many of the slaves at his station. Stephen Foster, the song writer and anti-slavery speaker, with his wife, was in Orland and lectured. Feeling ran so high that Dr. Madison Marsh, who was Deputy U. S. Marshal for the fugitive slave law, was burned in effigy and the slaves paraded in front of his house. Captain Barry was arrested and taken to Indianapolis along with Deacon Allan Fox. Barry was fined \$1,000.00 and costs but one of our old timers told me he didn't think the fine was ever paid. The "Friends of Freedom" met in great numbers at the Baptist Church in Orland, Dec. 16th, 1859. James Brown was chosen chairman and Morris H. Haskins, Secretary. The principal address was given by Titus C. Briggs, agent of the American Anti-Slavery Society. The committee on Resolutions consisted of Dr. Thomas B. Sloss, Rev. T. C. Briggs, Rev. Jacob Patch, Joal Allan Fox, and Russell Brown. Resolutions (in substance) upheld the principles of John Brown in reference to his action in the Harper's Ferry incident. Feeling ran

high in the town and county on this issue of human slavery and is attested to by the number of enlistments from the town and surrounding communities in this struggle between the North and South during the years of 1861 to 1865. Our cemeteries contain mute evidence of those who returned from the battle and are buried in their home land.

H. E. Bucklen of the Arnica Salve fame built a railroad through Orland, Angola, and eastward to Columbia, Ohio, where the hand of fate was laid on Mr. Bucklen and laid him low. The labors ceased and the family, not needing a railroad, proceeded to sell the ties, rails, engines, cars, and whatever, to a junk firm of Harris and Company, in Chicago.

This was in the year 1918 during World War One and steel was at a premium. Thousands of dollars were paid by the taxpayers to Mr. Bucklen or donated by towns. Towns along his right of way were erased and the St. Joseph Valley Line Railroad was no more. The grading began in 1905, and the first train reached Orland in May, 1907. In May, 1918, the road ceased operation with the consent of our State Public Utility Commission.

On April 26, 1916, this correspondent came to the town of Orland and the events, names, businesses, etc., are knowledge gained first hand. Let us see what has happened:

First Orland had a railroad as before stated, with an elevator owned by Sheldon and Willer, with a brick building adjacent for seeds and storage for flour and feeds. They also sold coal, doing a wonderful business which was an asset to the town.

The Stroup Lumber Company had a large storage and you could buy anything in the Lumber Company's department from Harry Dickinson, resident manager.

E. E. Swiger sold feeds, seeds, coal, and, for a wonder, ice; to keep you hot or cold as the need be.

Imhoff Bros. (Peter, Sam, John) were builders and had workshops along the right of way of the railroad.

The Standard Oil Company had huge storage tanks here, and Peter Stauffer with his Oil Wagon and heavy team of horses made delivery of gasoline, kerosene, and greases.

The Valley Line Railroad had a neat depot with its waiting room, baggage room, and office, with the freight house across the tracks; and all of this was presided over by Ed Murray, agent.



E. Gandy had an onion and potato storage in the building which was part of the old Academy, and this was a thriving business in season.

The Orland Shippers Association, live stock shippers, had their stock yards, and it was a weekly occurrence to deliver live stock to these yards for shipment to Buffalo. This association was composed of farmers, and W. A. Barrows was President, and Howe Neihardt, secretary, in 1916. Their peak shipment was twelve carloads of livestock in December 1917.

Fred Kimball had a storage building on the north side of the tracks and shipped potatoes and other products. This building was the old Academy school room and was moved when the township's new School was established.

What became of all these business places? You guessed it, they went with the railroad. The business places were torn to the ground, except the Gandy Storage and Sheldon and Willer brick building now occupied by the Steckley Co., which operates a feed mill. Uptown in the business district, the Steuben County Farm Bureau does feed grinding, buys grain, sells coal, lumber and farm seeds along with other farm supplies. The Boyer Lumber Company uptown has the lumber sheds and office, selling lumber and paints and small hardware. Mrs. Hazel Imhoff is resident manager. These places of business have replaced those down by the tracks.

In 1916 the J. G. Parker Company was operated by Howard Parker, son of John G. Parker, who had a general merchandise business over a long period of years, passing it on to the son, Howard. The Parkers came to Orland in 1856 from near Flint where their parents originally emigrated from Vermont. This store was owned before the Civil War by Charles Luce who sold his business to John and James Parker close to the end of the Civil War. Afterward, John Parker bought his brother's share and operated the store for many years. John Parker married Elmira Luce, daughter of Cyrus Luce, at one time governor of Michigan. Frank D. Parker, another brother, ran the P. I. (Patrons of Industry) store for that Association for a while, going into business for himself in furniture and undertaking at a later date.

Edwin L. Parker operated a livery barn and an implement store, also an Express and Freight line between Bronson and Orland for many years. Frank D., Edwin L., and Edward Parker, all broth-

ers, served in the Civil War, Edward being captured and sent to prison at Andersonville where he died and is buried. Edwin and Edward were twins. The Parker family was identified for years in the mercantile business of Orland, and was civic minded to the utmost.

In 1916 D. Jennings and Son operated a General store on the north side east of the intersection. They had built this building new after a fire on the southwest corner destroyed the entire corner in 1909. Originally the business was bought from Fred Schneider who operated the "Nimble Nickel" on the west side of North Street near the corner. He moved later to the south side of Vistula Street, west of the corner. James Jennings, the son, stated their store was in operation by the family for forty-seven consecutive years.

Fred Schneider's father, Christian Schneider, came to Orland in 1847. He was a tailor by trade, emigrating to the U. S. in 1846 from Baden-Baden, Germany. He was a Postmaster in Orland during the administrations of Pierce, Buchanan, Lincoln, Johnson, Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland, and Harrison, making thirty-seven years of continuous service. He also was known for his ringing of a bell which was placed over his post-office building. He rang it at six in the morning, at twelve noon, and six at night. He used sun time from a sun dial at his place of business.

F. J. Keyes had the Hardware Store and at one time handled farming implements. E. J. Hackett and Son sold implements, as did F. J. Werner who had the post office in 1916, with Mrs. Lillian Stuck as Chief Clerk at the office. Afterward Mrs. Stuck had the postoffice for several years. Orson Dickinson succeeded her.

The restaurant business in 1916 was handled by George Light and wife, son of one of the early blacksmiths of the town, James Light.

The Rehyer Company was just closing a general store on the southwest corner of the square, and E. W. Ernsberger and Son began a business of general storekeeping in the spring of 1916, which lasted for nearly thirty years on the northeast corner of the square.

The Drug store was run by Don Hamlin, who bought the store from the Smith VanEtta family after Mr. VanEtta's death. Don Hamlin died a few years later and E. F. Nelson bought the store and operated it for a number of years. The store is now owned by Ralph Keyes and wife.

The Hotel was under Mr. Lewis Starrett's supervision and, with plenty of hospitality and good food, he had a nice business. Mr. Starrett sold this business to Ward Cleveland who in turn sold to E. T. Hilkert, who operated the hotel and bakery. This building was razed by F. K. Keyes, and Mr. Hilkert put up a Standard Oil Service Station there. Mr. Hilkert sold to Earl Albright, who sold the station to Owen Norton who runs the Cities Service Station on the northwest corner of the square. The frame drug store and adjoining building burned. Mr. Hamlin bought the store building from the Parker's daughter, Florence Sanderson, and this corner was eventually purchased by the Sheets Oil Company and now has a Phillips 66 Service Station. This is on the southeast corner of the square. The Citizens State Bank of Orland was organized in 1906 with a capital of \$25,000.00. Its first officers were John Shuman, President; A. E. Yoder, Cashier. In 1920 the officers were D. C. Salisbury, President; E. Graham, Vice President; and W. J. Case, Cashier. The bank was prosperous and had a fine record of achievement but, in the year 1934, due to a nationwide financial crisis, it was closed. This building today is occupied by the Miller Tavern and Restaurant. The Oliver Stayner blacksmith shop was situated on South Wayne street, and the George Fisher Blacksmith shop was on the North Wayne street location; both shops doing a flourishing business in 1916. With the automobile and tractor came the Service Stations, and the blacksmith shops gave way to these and the welding shops.

The three Churches, Methodist, Baptist, and Congregational, were the early religious groups and in 1916 we find the Methodist and the Congregational operating with good congregations, but the Baptist was not, and the building was converted to a garage.

Today the Congregational and Methodist Churches have a fine membership and a new Church now being built by the Nazarene faith is also being added to the town's religious activities.

The Masonic order of Free and Accepted Masons with a charter dating back to 1858 is still a strong factor in the community.

Orland Schools have been outstanding since the first Vermonters came. They at once realized the need of a good education and have passed this on to their children's children, and our schools today are good with excellent equipment and teachers. Orland became an incorporated town on April 16,

1915. The first officers of the town were: Frank Keyes, Charles Willer, and Truman Roberts, Trustees; Milo Thompson, Clerk; Howard Parker, Treasurer; Ed C. Swartswalter, Marshal. Today's officers are Floyd E. Carpenter, Elmo Wells, Robert W. Kellett, Trustees; Clinton D. Ernsberger, Clerk-Treasurer; Robert Twitchell, Sr., Marshal.

The town originally had electric lights from the water power on the stream. The owner of the mill at that time was Robert Sanderson, Sr., who sold in the Spring of 1916 to Lloyd Jacob. Mr. Jacob operated the mill and lights for a time and eventually sold mill, power, and franchise to the Northern Indiana Public Service Co. They are doing a good job keeping street lights and consumer service at tops.

The streets of Orland are paved, with two main state highways intersecting at the town square. State Road #120 east and west has a history all its own, also State Road #327 north and south, that connects with State and U. S. highways in Indiana and has good paved roads into Michigan. North of Orland one and one-half miles is the proposed Indiana State Toll road running east and west across the State, connecting with Ohio's Toll road, and west to Illinois where further construction is contemplated by that State. Indiana is securing right of way, and the great toll road will soon be a reality.

The Town of Orland has always been music minded and attesting to that fact are the many citizens who played in the early Bands. Orrin Brown, whose family came to Orland in 1836, used to direct one of the early Bands and they practiced at the Brown home on West Toledo street. Bert Brown, the son of Orrin and Emily (Helme) Brown, whose love for music and great talent on the cornet began his career as a boy, as janitor for the Old Orland Band. Afterward, step by step, he advanced to top cornet soloist in Sousa's, Arthur Pryor's and Bachman's bands, known nationally and world wide. Bert was graduated from the Orland Schools in 1885 and is now spending his summers in Orland at the old home, wintering at Miami, Florida, since his retirement.

The Orland Band of the more recent years was supervised and directed by Charles E. Helme. The players, all from the Orland Community, gave pleasure to a wide group of people who came every week to hear the concerts played in the Band Stand near the center of the town.



In the month of August, 1934, Orland held its Centennial. People from near and far came. Business was suspended, Orland killed the fatted calf and what a dinner those Orland women placed before all. The bell that Christian Schneider rang for so many years at morning and curfew was brought back home, and the grandson, Fred Schneider, Jr., rang them all to dinner. The Orland Band played during the day and gave a grand concert in the evening. A parade and pageant were given. Rev. Somerville Light gave the address of welcome. Judge Clyde Carlin gave the afternoon address. The school orchestra played and the young folk spoke "pieces." What a time! We finished off with dancing on the streets.

On April 25, 1935, the Town Board consisting of Charles E. Helme, 1st ward; Frank F. Lewis, 2nd ward; H. O. Elliott, 3rd ward; agreed to purchase a parcel of land from Minor Hoover for a town park and fish hatchery, the labor to be performed by the Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) This was the beginning of what is now the Fawn River State Fish Hatchery. The land was purchased and incorporated in the town so that money collected for taxes could be expended on the project. Four ponds were laid out and five display ponds on the north side of the land were constructed. Some of the earth for the dams was taken from the Park Site and the greater part was donated by C. A. Kelso from Lime Kiln hill on his farm northwest of town. When complete, the Orland Conservation Club raised the bass, blue gill, and perch fingerlings and sold them to the Indiana State Conservation Department, giving most of the money received to the town. The project was quite an undertaking for the civil town, and the Town's Board of Trustees tendered the Hatchery to the State of Indiana as a gift, which in due time was accepted by the State for conservation and fish culture. The state in turn purchased more land across State Road 327 to the west of the original four ponds, building a fine service house, a caretaker's home, and further work on the spillway of the dam; making today nine rearing ponds and five display ponds with culture tanks and buildings, one of the best in the state. The clear cold water of Crooked Creek (The state calls it the Fawn) is of great natural advantage for such work. Thousands of baby fish find new homes each year in our lakes to grow and add to the pleasure of the anglers who love fishing as a sport. On June 15, 1942, Orland held open house and

dedicated the Fawn River Fish Hatchery, with the help of all the conservation clubs of the County and the executives of the State Conservation Department. Our good governor, Henry Schricker, gave the principal address. A parade one and one half miles long, Floats, Bands, Baton Twirlers, comical characters, and distinguished guests. It was a gala day. A queen was chosen from the high school girls of the County, and Miss Mary Green reigned for the day with former queens of the Fisherman's Jubilee, held at Angola in former years, as her maids of honor.

We, the people of the town of Orland, are justly proud of a family who early cast their lot with this community and long planned to donate a public library to Orland, its friends, and the township of Millgrove.

William Joyce and his two sisters, Mary Joyce McKinley and Eliza Joyce, gave to Orland and Millgrove Township, as a token of their intellectual tastes and tribute to their memory, The Joyce Public Library. This Library is situated in the second floor rear of the brick store building on Lot #1 of the Original plat of Orland town. The Library is governed by a Board of Trustees chosen by the Literary Association and selected by ballot. The present trustees are: C. D. Ernsberger, Chairman; Mrs. Bertice Brown, Secretary-Treasurer; Cleo H. Kain, Donald Bailey, Mrs. Evelyn Klingler, and Mrs. Bonnie Van Wagner. The revenue from rental of the store building and a small library tax levy is used for the library. Mrs. Brown is the librarian. The Library was dedicated March 24th, 1903, and was open to the public on that date. The Library had fifteen hundred volumes on the opening date and many more have been added over the years, making nearly four thousand volumes to date. The interior of the Library is done in Oak and furnished with chairs and window seats, reading tables, and desk. The room is 24 feet by 50 feet with heavy cork floor covering on the floor.

The business places in Orland besides those already mentioned are the Ralph Keyes Super Market on the north side of Toledo street, a fine market well equipped to handle the grocery and meat business; also the Marathon Service Station, two good restaurants, two fine barber shops, Orland Appliance Store, Orland Hardware, Opdyke Dry Goods, Lewis Implement Store, Two Beauty Shops, Boucher Body Shop, Cleveland Saw Mill, Van

Wagner Bait House and Fur Shop, Cary's Welding Shop. Located  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile west of Orland is Wendell VanWagner's Superette Market and Wholesale and Retail meats. The Merriman Construction Co. is on North Wayne St. The Expressways Inc. services the town with delivery of freight. Privately owned trucks haul the farmers' products to market taking over where the railroad left off. The general Telephone Company furnishes telephone service.

The Orland Volunteer Fire Department services the Town and Townships adjacent and its officers are from the territory it covers.

The three trucks are new. Their equipment is new, and they are housed in a fine brick and block building situated on a part of Lot #34 in O. P. of Orland, donated to the Town by public spirited citizen E. W. Pocock. The building was put up by the combined efforts of the volunteer Department, and represents the fine spirit of helpfulness of the people in general.



## Pleasant Lake Reminiscences

*By Mark Ransburg*

My thoughts turn back to a Pleasant Lake Orchestra originated and led by Chester V. Tuttle, consisting of his 3 sons, Earl, Carl, and Worthy, also Shirley Gilbert and others.

Then what a Band at that time—this Band was led by Worthy Tuttle, who played the Cornet, Carl Tuttle, who played the Trombone, and who had power enough to lead with one. Other players I recall were: Frank Ransburg, Shirley Gilbert, Claud Ball, Melvin and Orla Huffman, and others.

Then we think of the famous male quartet which had the name of the "Elite Quartet." They commenced to sing 63 years ago, which would be 1890. Two members of the quartet, Shirley Gilbert, Bass, and Mark Ransburg, Tenor, were in the quartet the entire 30 years. The two middle parts such as (Melvin and Orla Huffman) (Sidney Huffman and William Deller) (Carl and Emmet Ingalls) (Grant Dunlop and Frank Hill), changed frequently, so the Elite Quartet, in the 30 years to-

gether sang for nearly every thing you could imagine such as Churches, Lodges, Weddings, Funerals, Parties, Old Settler meetings at Angola, sang many times for their sick friends, also for school activities.

My mind goes now to the "Old Park Baseball Team" which entertained Pleasant Lake and many other towns around here for several years. This fine Ball Club became so popular that teams from such cities as Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Jackson, Michigan, and many others came and were royally entertained. Those who were players on the "Old Park Team" as it was called, were managed by Frank H. Chadwick. The battery was: Worthy Tuttle, catcher; Carl Tuttle, pitcher; Sherman Knisley, first base; A. J. Mitchell, second base; Frank P. Hoover, third base; Jacob Mentzer, short stop; Arthur Gilbert, left field; John Morrison, right field; and a man by the name of Morley, whose first name is unknown and who played center field. When playing Ft. Wayne or Jackson, the Manager usually employed a battery from Ft. Wayne. This battery was, "Bosker and Turner." Jake Mentzer was a young man who came here from Philadelphia, Pa., and had played professional ball there. He was a wonderful short stop and knew the game from A to Z, and I can hear him yet, with his constant chatter, which kept the team on their toes every minute.

I recall one wonderful play Jake made. There was a runner on third base, the batter hit a low line drive just inside of third base, Jake ran at top speed to his right and snared the ball on the dead run and kept right on going, stepped on third base to double this runner who had started to score. The applause Jake received was equal to any you could hear today. I believe if Jake were living today, he could make any team in the League. I do not know of any whom I mentioned on the Park Nine who are living today except Worthy and Carl Tuttle.

I recall a race from Angola to Pleasant Lake, between Chester V. Tuttle, on horse-back, and a bicycle rider. The horse won the race.

I recall several large families such as the McGrews, Renners, Ransburgs, Gilberts, Hoyers, Lemmons, Matsons, and Chadwicks. I recall one family named their flock like this: (It was David Renner and wife), Jim and Hank, Ed. and Frank, Nora, Jake, and Isaac. Only one, the youngest, Isaac, is living today. None are living in the large James McGrew family of 10. In the John



Ransburg family of 11, only three are left: Paul, Mark, and Mrs. Gertrude Gilbert. Arthur and Hayes Hoyer, of the older Hoyer children, Elsie Grim, Vira Powers, Bessie Matson, and Chap Lemmon are the only ones left of the Riley Lemmon family. Frank H. Chadwick did not have a large family but was a very aggressive business man as early as 1875. Mr. Chadwick and Henry Linder of Angola started the Chadwick and Company General Store here, and operated under that name for a great many years. Mr. Chadwick took a liking to D. Carl Ransburg and employed Carl at the age of 15 to clerk. In a short time he asked Carl to live in his home which he did until married. Later, Carl became a partner in the store, his partnership lasting for 35 years. At this time Mr. Chadwick retired and sold his  $\frac{2}{3}$  interest in the store to the Ransburg Bros., Carl and Paul, who successfully operated the business until Carl's death, Carl leaving his  $\frac{2}{3}$  to his 2 boys, Don and Harold. The store has been a leading Department Store all these years and is now very successfully owned and operated by Ransburg Bros., Inc., and managed by Harold Ransburg.

In the early Bicycle days, Pleasant Lake sent out 2 very good racers, Howard Long and Alvin Goodwin. Most of their racing was done at the County Fairs and Street Fairs.

For many years, back about 1870, Pleasant Lake had the only Lake Resort in this area except Rome City. The Baseball Club, Dance Hall and Boating, and so many attractions in this early day, brought excursions from Fort Wayne, Jackson, and other cities here in unbelievable numbers. At that time the Ft. Wayne and Jackson Branch of the N.Y.C. Railroads was running 4 passenger trains each way a day. I have seen excursion trains come in here and side track, unload their sport loving people who remained here until late in the evening, before returning to their destinations. Pleasant Lake was just that popular.

Then I recall the Ice Industry. J. T. and Steven Ransburg, Bros., built an Ice House on the east end of Long Lake and furnished ice to this community and Ft. Wayne. Ice dealers in Ft. Wayne had signs on their wagons, "Pleasant Lake Pure Northern Lake Ice." Eugene Aldrich also had a smaller Ice House on the Southwest corner of Pleasant Lake and furnished ice to this community. Later, Moran and Company of Ft. Wayne came here and put up four very huge ice houses and shipped ice to Ft.

Wayne for a great many years, until, of course, the artificial ice plants cut in so badly, when the Moran Company closed up the houses and later razed them, then, of course, the electric refrigerator crowded out the Artificial Ice business.

J. T. and S. G. Ransburg also operated the first sawmill. It was located near the east end of Long Lake. Logs were hauled on the ice in winter and floated down the lake in summer. (The writer has seen the ice 22" thick on Long Lake.)

Later, the sawmill was moved to their farm about 6 miles southwest of Pleasant Lake, where they operated as a local mill for a great many years. Later, the Pleasant Lake location was sold to Joseph Goodwin of Waterloo, Indiana. Joseph and Alvin Goodwin established a saw mill and did an extensive business. At one time they had 4 mills operating in different sections of this area. Later, this business was sold to Bert Sprague, who, after operating successfully as a Lumber Company, sold to Mr. Ormsby Lyons of Pleasant Lake. Mr. Lyons sold this business in 1954 to a Mr. Roth. He (Mr. Lyons) also owns the Pleasant Lake Hardware.

Another business of some years ago was that of a Burial Vault Concern, owned and operated by Mr. Wm. Anstett and Sons. For some time Pleasant Lake has had a Cement Block Business. This at present is owned by Gail Anstett and operated by his son, Donald.

One of the most progressive things around Pleasant Lake happened about 1893. Long Lake lies just west of Pleasant Lake, and is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles long and about 40 rods wide. This is the first of a string of Lakes leading west: Mud, Little Bower and Big Bower, Golden, and Hogback, and finally small streams leading into Lake Michigan. L. I. Matson owned a large farm which completely bordered the north side of Long Lake. About 1890 Alvin Goodwin built a cottage near the west end of the north side: I think that is what gave James Hoffman his vision. Hoffman came to me one day and said, "Mark, do you want to make some money?" I said "Sure." He said, "I believe we can make arrangements with L. I. Matson to lay out some lots and pay for the lots as we sell them." I said, "Jim, you fool, who would want a cottage in that quiet and lonesome place?" All I thought of was Lake James and Crooked Lake for cottages. I did not fall for Hoffman's vision, but I wish I had, as Hoffman did make arrangements with L. I. Matson to pay for the lots as sold. Hoffman sold

a few lots but did not make much progress, but in a very few years, it proved there were a great many who preferred a quiet place and an inexpensive place to build a cottage, and now (1954) there are around 100 cottages along this Long Lake North Shore, known as Moonlight Bay.

Also another progressive opportunity came, which was started about 1898. A very extensive gravel industry was operated by the N.Y.C. Railroad Company. The gravel was to be used as ballast. But in two years time the Railroad Company decided on crushed stone, so the large pit was sublet to a Detroit firm who furnished washed gravel for years, which provided employment for many workers. After the gravel industry closed, Vermont Finley built a very fine summer cottage on the high peak of the surface dirt which was piled there, then the deep excavating for gravel caused a seepage to make another addition to the many beautiful lakes known in Steuben County. This lake was named Pit Lake and became one of the popular swimming pool lakes in this area.

The progress of Pleasant Lake also was represented in a large area by the going out of Miss Gertrude Gilbert and Miss Lilah Gilbert, who were in Chautauqua for a number of years, as entertainers and instructors. Pleasant Lake is the only town (to my knowledge) that put on Chautauquas for several years FREE, and massive crowds would attend. A boy and lady friend of mine came to spend the week end and said, "When we entered Pleasant Lake, we thought we were entering Chicago."

Pleasant Lake has been, almost from the beginning, very progressive in music, both vocal and instrumental, churches, sports of all kinds, schools, and high class citizenship.

Editor's Note: (Since the writing of this Chapter, Mr. Worthy Tuttle, who is mentioned herein, has passed away.)

#### **Pleasant Lake Centennial Program 1835-1935**

On Friday, August 9, 1935, Pleasant Lake, Indiana, began the celebration of one hundred years of Progress and Achievement. From Friday at noon until Sunday evening at 7:30 P.M., when they closed with an Old Time Meeting at Mount Zion, Pleasant Lake had a royal get-together. The American Legion Drum Corps, Bands, Baseball games, Mule, Pony, and Horse Races, Shooting Matches, a Style Show, and Bicycle Races, were

among the events of the three days of good times. These are just a few of the many interesting things listed on the program.

"Little more than a century ago, on land which is now fertile fields, dotted with comfortable homes, the Pottawatomie Indians roamed at will. They hunted wild game in the forests, fished in the streams, and paddled their canoes over our beautiful lakes. Their trails became the roads of the early settlers. Numerous Indian relics, such as arrowheads and hatchets, have been found on land bordering our lakes. Occasionally some are still found by the tillers of the soil. An Indian named Michinese was the first person, of which there is any record, to meet death by drowning in Pleasant Lake. He lost his life trying to save one of his friends. Jack Miller, grandfather of Mrs. Bert Johnson, knew this man and often hunted deer with him. He was buried in the old park site on the north bank of the lake. Vol Simmons, for several years a merchant in the town, erected a monument to his memory, but it has since been lost." (Pleasant Lake was named "Nipcondish" by the Indians.)

"The first log house was built on Section 15 by Seth W. Murray in 1835. The first frame dwelling was erected by Abner Winsor in 1836, and is still standing on land now owned by Emmett Croxton. Abner Winsor and Seth Murray planted their orchards in the spring of 1836. The first marriage was that of William Cummins and Almira Clark—1837.

"Pleasant Lake was laid out in February, 1846, by Payne C. Parker, covering part of what is now Pleasant Lake. The records do not show that Parker, or Luther Cleland to whom Parker sold, ever conveyed any lots and that the plat seems to have been ignored and the lots sold by metes and bounds.

"The first post office at Pleasant Lake was opened June 2, 1851, with Simeon Aldrich as postmaster. At the end of the century, mail reaches our town by train, by bus and by auto truck. There are two rural routes, delivering mail daily to the inhabitants of the rural districts. (1935)

"The town of Pleasant Lake was platted November 1, 1870, by William Thompson and Sheldon Ball. Before this time, homes, stores, and schools had been built near the east end of the lake. The post office and stores were about one-half mile east of the present business district. With the coming



of the New York Central Railroad, which passed near the west end of the lake, the business section gradually changed, David Gilbert made two additions to the town.

"An old account book kept by Vol Simmons was recently in possession of Frank M. Tuttle. Mr. Simmons was the second merchant in Pleasant Lake. (The first was Augustus V. Ball.) A glance at this old book is sufficient proof that at the time when he was engaged in business, money was scarce. The names of many of his patrons who were considered well to do, were found on his charge account.

"Today (August 1935) there are two groceries, two barber shops, two restaurants, two pool rooms, six auto service stations, hardware, drug store, produce station, blacksmith shop, lumber yard, burial vault company, hotel and tourist camp.

"In 1914 a bank with a capital stock of \$25,000 was organized in Pleasant Lake. It occupied a well equipped building and for twenty years was a real asset to the community. It is now in the process of liquidation, a victim of the depression.

"The near drowning of a team of horses occurred at one time at the east end of Pleasant Lake. Theodore Foster, nicknamed 'Putty Foster,' had taken his horses to drink from the lake. A small amount of ice had been removed by a party who desired it for home use. Thin ice had formed over the opening which was partly covered with drifted snow. Mr. Foster drove upon this thin ice and immediately his horses were submerged in the ice cold water. After strenuous effort on his part, with the assistance of some of his friends who saw his predicament, the horses were rescued.

"In 1875 an Agricultural Society was formed and in September of that year a fair was held on the park grounds. Adjoining townships cooperated and the fair was an unusual success. The committee in charge was V. E. Simmons, T. I. Biery, A. Shafstall, Samuel Carter, L. I. Matson and S. W. Scoville. Farm products and needlework were exhibited, and one year a husking match was featured. There were twelve contestants and fifty ears were allotted to each husker. Dan Hall, of Otsego, won first place in the contest. His time was two minutes and twenty seconds, which was a few seconds less than that of A. Lemon, also of Otsego. These fairs were held annually until 1879, when they were discontinued."

Note: The above account of the Centennial, and

other historical events was taken from the booklet describing the event and was sponsored by the Pleasant Lake Lions Club.

### REMINISCENCE

Come and see the old sickle, the plow rake and frow,  
Old tools that our Grandads used long ago,  
The old heckle that stripped the flax from the reeds,  
The wheel that spun it to meet family needs.  
The wheezy old bellows along the hearthside,  
The old teakettle that sang till it cried.  
The mellow dinner-horn that called men of yore,  
The trusty musket on pegs by the door.  
The wooden-wheeled clock that kept ticking along—  
Timing its strokes to the churn's dashing song.  
The cradle and trundle-bed, each played a part,  
In giving this town a pretty good start.  
And this panorama of sunshine and tears—  
Gives it a start on the next hundred years.

Poem by Nina Lockwood.



Ray Ramblings

By Earl McNaughton

Alexander McNaughton, accompanied by his wife and four children, made the long journey by ox team and wagon from New York to Fremont Township of Steuben County in 1836. Only the previous year had the first homes been built in that township. They settled on a piece of wild land two miles south of the present Village of Ray. Alexander McNaughton sold that land a few years later and bought 160 acres in section 13. The Village of Ray stands on part of that quarter section. Alexander McNaughton spent the rest of his life there as a farmer, and he platted the Village of Ray and gave it its first impulse toward growth, November 19, 1873. His children were named Eliza, Joseph, Archibald, Robert, Maria, and Sarah Jane. The wife of Alexander McNaughton died March 30, 1867, and he passed away January 24, 1884.

Joseph C. McNaughton lived on a farm two miles south of Ray in a log house.

Archibald lived on a farm east of Clear Lake in Fremont Township.

Robert lives south and a little east of Ray. Joseph and Archibald were farmers, but Robert was more inclined to be a merchant. He made this remark once, "I can make more money selling crackers than I can on the farm and I am going to build a building and start a grocery store." He built the two story, with basement, cement building right north of the dry goods store and opened a grocery, which made the third grocery store in Ray. He had been operator of a store earlier.

About 1884, Theodore McNaughton took over the grain elevator above the N.Y.C. Railroad Depot and later, about 1893, took in his brother, Robert, as a partner. They were the sons of Joseph C. McNaughton. They had the grain business of the township and were one of N. Y. Central's best customers. In about 1903, they built the elevator that they sold to the Co-op later. Then the N.Y.C. sold their elevator to them and built a new depot. They moved the old elevator right west of the new elevator. A little later they started a lumber yard, which was handled by L. E. McNaughton. They also bought wool and had a building right east of the depot, which is still standing. The Co-op sold the elevator in Sept., 1954.

Robert McNaughton, Sr., operated a dry goods and grocery store. Later Clyde McNaughton and Clair Duguid purchased the store, and they had a wonderful business. It was a good sized store, about 45 x 65 feet, two story and basement. There was a millinery shop upstairs, in front, and a shoe store in the rear. One day there was such a crowd they had to lock the doors so the crowd in the store could be waited on.

Simeon Duguid operated a meat market and grocery store on the southwest corner of the square. Right west of the meat market was George Sheppard's blacksmith shop, and west of that was a carpenter's building where window frames and the like were made.

Frank Abrams had a good drugstore, but it wasn't large enough, so about 1903 he built a fine brick building on the southeast corner of the square, about 24 x 80 feet, two story and basement.

In 1902, E. B. McNaughton, son of Theodore McNaughton, purchased the hardware store from John E. Duguid. In 1907, E. B. McNaughton built a

two story tile building with basement and large Otis elevator on the south side of the street, joining the Abrams building on the east, size 52 x 80 feet, and moved the hardware to that building, leaving room for the Ray Bank in the northeast corner, which his father, Theodore, and E. B. started at that time.

Fred McNitt had the barber shop, and Dr. McTaggart had his office on the Michigan side of the street. Ben Isenhower had the harness shop east of the bank.

Now, you can see that Ray was a business town with \$118,000.00 deposits in the Ray Bank, a large dry goods business, millinery shop, three groceries, hardware and implements, with the largest amount of implement sales of any such firm in the county, dry goods store with anything you needed, a meat market, the largest elevator business in the county, a large lumber yard, a good physician, as well as a barber, harness maker, and window frame factory. Also, two busses met trains three times a day to take care of people coming to Clear Lake.

They had mail to and from Jackson and Fort Wayne two times each day, and passenger trains, three each way.

Now, what did Ray not have? It was a high school and no chance of one being right on the Indiana and Michigan line. Children south of Ray went to Fremont, and those north, to Montgomery. There were no busses. They drove horses, and the children brought the groceries home.

The town of Fremont was not going too strong during those days, but they had a three year high school, and many roads angling into town. It looked like a good location. C. A. McNaughton sold out to John Zimmerman. Dr. McTaggart died. F. Abrams moved to Fremont, and invested in the drug business.

The bank examiner told Theodore and E. B. McNaughton that Fremont was a good location for a bank, so they organized the First National Bank of Fremont in the year of 1915, sending J. R. Thompson there to act as cashier. The McNaughtons and Thompson did not agree on the operation, so Thompson left to be cashier of the Coldwater National Bank, and E. B. McNaughton and family moved to Fremont, in the year of 1920; E. B. McNaughton acting as cashier, and Theodore McNaughton, President. Two years later they purchased the First State Bank and moved into the building in which they are now operating. Also in the year 1920, E. B. purchased the Len Gaier



hardware store on the southeast corner of the square and moved most of the hardware from Ray to Fremont, leaving Wylie Stewart at Ray to manage the store. Wylie ran it about a year, but did not like it, even though he had been working there for eighteen years. Robert Logan took over for a short time, and then the balance of the store was moved to Fremont.

The Ray bank, a private bank, was reorganized and changed to a State Bank, and the stock holders were Theodore McNaughton, E. B. McNaughton, J. C. McNaughton, Clayton McNaughton, and Leslie McNaughton, with Clayton McNaughton as cashier. Clayton thought he liked farming better than banking so decided to quit. They hired another cashier, but after keeping him a few years, in 1928 he was found short about \$27,000.00. The bank kept going for about one year, and the drug store building caught fire and burned down, setting fire to the hardware and bank building, which burned to the ground. Depositors of the bank were paid in full, and the bank was closed.

Robert McNaughton, Sr., on account of age, closed out his grocery store.

Theodore and Robert C. McNaughton sold the elevator to the Co-op in the year 1919, and purchased the Hammel Milling Co., in Fremont, about 1922.

The lumber yard, which was left in the hands of Leslie McNaughton, finally faded out, building and all.

Still, Ray has two good grocery stores, owned by Bill Chandler and the Freburns, the Freburn garage, and garage and implement store, owned by Lafe Carpenter.

All in all Ray is a little, but much loved town.

### A Hoosier Village

*By Newell LeRoy Sims, Ph.D.  
as reviewed by Mrs. A. LeRoy*

In the year of 1912 Newell LeRoy Sims, Ph.D., came forth with a volume entitled "A Hoosier Village" which created quite a furor among the people of his home community. It was written as his thesis on the occasion of his graduation from Columbia University, and deals with the people and conditions of the community which had long been his home. In a perusal of this story, the reader should bear in mind that the opinions herein expressed are strictly those of Dr. Sims, and that

the "now" of which he speaks refers to the years immediately following the turn of this century.

In a desire to conceal the identity of the place, the village has been designated as Aton. The other communities in the vicinity are referred to as Bton, Cton, and Dton. The town lies near the parallel running through Chicago and Toledo, and is situated in the very northeast county of Indiana. This is known as the interlobate morainic region, the surface of which is generally rolling and often very rough. Within the area of the county where Aton is located, there are more than one hundred lakes. It is in the heart of this picturesque country, on the shore of one of these lakes, that Aton is situated.

The soil over the county is very diversified as it is glacial drift and belongs to the Quaternary geological period. The natural resources are few, with no known mineral deposits. The water supply of the locality is abundant, supplied to a great extent from springs, and is of excellent quality, but the many lakes and streams do not afford water power. The climate is changeable and the seasons are of uncertain duration.

Originally, heavy forests of the finest hardwoods covered the land and afforded resources for timber industries, until they were exhausted. Beyond these industries, the district is adapted only to farming and grazing. With the rough surface and some waste land, it does not offer the best agricultural advantages, and consequently the county is not able to sustain a large population. Such are the environmental conditions surrounding Aton and the district of which it is the metropolis.

Within a radius of twenty miles there are a number of villages and small communities, but much smaller than Aton. The nearest of these, Bton, is five miles away, and it was said in the earlier days that there was much rivalry between these two, which has long ceased to exist.

In the fourth decade of the last century, immigration into Northern Indiana began. The opening of new lands brought settlers from New England and the middle Atlantic States. In 1833 two families from western New York came into this region and entered two sections of land for which they paid the government at the rate of "ten shillings" per acre. On this land they proceeded to lay out a village. The immediate occasion for the founding of Aton was a religious desire. The settlers were Spiritualists, and on this account they had

been refused admittance to other settlements where they sought to locate.

When a separate county was to be organized in the northeast corner of the State, the question of the County Seat arose. Through shrewdness, clever trickery, and misrepresentations on the part of the legislator from Aton, the southern tier of townships was detached from the new county and added to the one adjoining on the south, thus causing the center of the new county to fall near the village of Aton.

On April 5th, 1838, the town was platted and given its present name. There were thirty-six acres in the site, divided equally between the founders, Messrs. G. and G. In 1839 a log jail was built, a circuit court was established, and then a frame court house, costing \$2,000, was built in 1841. The post office had been opened in 1838, and then the village of Aton began, and, growing, became an incorporated town October 1st, 1866, and a chartered city in April, 1906.

The influx of settlers continued, most of them from the lake region of western York State. No doubt they were attracted to Aton because it was located in a lake region strikingly similar to their own, in topography, timber growth, and soil.

There have been three distinct periods in the growth of the village. In the first, from 1836 to 1869, agriculture was the chief; in the second, from 1869 to 1885, the commercial interests; in the third period from 1885 to the present, the educational activities were important. The first real economic awakening of the community was brought about by the coming of the Railroad in 1869. The town boomed and the "Republican" said, "We can reasonably expect that a few years will put our town in the ranks with the most beautiful and prosperous ones in the State of Indiana."

Aton enjoyed a period of prosperity which lasted until 1874. Then came a slump. The Republican, in reviewing the situation said in part, "we need manufacturies of cheese, staves and barrels, furniture, chairs, hub and spoke, and woolen factories." These suggestions were very sane ones. There were abundant resources to sustain some of these industries, had they been started. Had she utilized her opportunities, Aton might have become an industrial center of considerable size. But the villagers were petty traders, and the farmers were inexperienced in promoting industries, and lacking in initiative and business ability. So the

boom "busted" and the village became dormant again.

The third era of economic development began in 1885 with the establishment of a Normal College. Though several previous attempts to found a college in Aton had failed, in 1884 the idea was revived by a promoter of a Normal College who enlisted the interest of half a dozen men. A stock company was formed, and buildings erected. The college announced itself a private nondenominational co-educational school, and its chief object was the training of teachers. Through the founding of this college, the stimulating effect on the financial affairs of the village was greatly felt, though the purely cultural influence was not noticed until later. Not only were fraternities, clubs, and the usual college organizations, with the exception of two Literary Societies, prohibited, but also all athletics.

Largely through an appeal to the social egotism of the community, certain institutions were sustained, among them "The Aton Fairs" and "Old Settlers Day."

In 1840 the demotic composition of Aton was made up of three elements, as follows: English 90%; Scotch-Irish 8%; and Dutch 2%. Though an occasional Negro or Jew settled in the village, he so fitted into the social order that no antagonism resulted. A college professor once said that this was the most thoroughly democratic place that he had ever known.

Here was found an unusual interest in politics, yet this very subject was the occasion for much controversy through the years from Civil War days. Just preceding the Rebellion there were a number of Radical Abolitionists and equally radical pro-slavery men in the village. The underground railway had a station in Aton and "did a good business." The pro-slavery men watched their neighbors with vigilant eyes, and frequently brought them to justice. The court records show that prominent citizens were indicted "for harboring niggers." Since then politics has ever been the cause of friction.

A study of two neighboring villages with respect to the nature of their population, during the same period, together with their later developments in comparison with Aton, serves to establish the fact that it is in the nature of the population that explanation of the religious phenomenon must primarily be sought.

The village of Cton was some twenty miles dis-



tant from Aton, while the village of Dton was somewhat nearer. All three communities during the first period were of about the same size and equally isolated. Cton was settled by pioneers from Vermont and long bore the name of Vermont Settlement. From the first it had the reputation of being a devout, peaceable, intelligent, and thrifty community. From its earliest days the people have been known for their stand on the Temperance question, and as a result all attempts to establish saloons have proved failures. Those who have gone forth from Cton have been remarkably successful in the battle of life, and there can be no doubt that their success has been largely the result of an excellent moral and religious influence.

Dton had a different history. Its settlers came from the same district in New York as those of Aton. While Cton was celebrated far and wide for its good name, Dton was held in disrepute. Its vice and dissipation were proverbial and the parallel between Aton and Dton in this regard was pointed out by the older citizens. Though the Church had come to wield some influence, Dton was still known as a "tough place."

In keen contrast to the reverent attitude of the founders of Cton, those of Aton fully intended to exclude churches for all time. Under this influence,

spiritualism and free love became dominant. The village acquired a reputation of being irreligious and immoral, as well as a hot-bed of iniquity and vice. In contrast to former religious influence Aton is now one of the most thoroughly church communities to be found anywhere. Under the leavening influences of the churches and public opinion, the pendulum of human behavior then swung from one of extreme lawlessness to the other of extreme piety.

The social environment produced, as the prevailing type, the austere, dogmatic, Puritanic individual who was the champion of self denial, believer in fair dealing and in justice, a devotee of religious and reform movements. In this period there developed a dozen ministers, missionaries, and many temperance reformers. A noteworthy partisan spirit had arisen.

As against the first period the present social environment is one of authority in religion, politics, and morals; it is more institutionalized and consequently, more stable, and also more inhibitive of impulsive action.

In the past decades men from Aton have filled twenty public offices aside from those merely local. They have ranged from Congressmen and a Lieutenant Governor to a Vice-Governor of the Philippines.

# Steuben County Judiciary



## U. S. Congress and Indiana General Assemblymen

*By Honorable Willis K. Batchelet*

Steuben County, prior to its organization in 1837, for its State Senators and State Representatives comprised all the State north to the Great Miami Reservation.

The first State Representative was Austin Davenport of Boone County, serving during 1833. During 1834, John B. Champman of Elkhart-LaGrange served. During 1835, Ebenezer M. Chamberlain of Elkhart served. During 1836, Thomas Gale of Angola served. During 1837, David B. Harriman of Rome City served.

In 1837, Steuben County was organized, and the State Representative district was set for DeKalb, Noble, LaGrange, and Steuben Counties. The State Representatives for the years 1838 to 1841 were as follows:

- 1838-39 David B. Harriman of Rome City.
- 1840 John B. Howe of Lima, now Howe, Ind.

In 1840 Steuben and DeKalb Counties were united as one Representative district. Those serving were as follows:

- 1841-42 Madison Marsh of Orland, Steuben Co.
- 1843-44 Jacob Helwig of Auburn, DeKalb Co.
- 1845 Clark Powers of Angola, Steuben Co.
- 1846 George W. Balding of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1847 John P. Widney of Newville, DeKalb County.
- 1848 Reuben J. Dawson of Spencerville, DeKalb County.
- 1849 Edward R. May of Angola, Steuben Co.
- 1850 John Stayner of DeKalb County.
- 1851 Gilman C. Mudgett of Newville, DeKalb County.
- 1852 George W. McConnell of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1853 Edward F. Hammond of DeKalb Co.

- 1854 Robert Work of DeKalb County.
- 1855 Alonzo P. Clark of DeKalb County.
- 1856 James Hadsell of DeKalb.
- 1857 to 1893 Apportionments Steuben County:
- 1857 Thomas B. Sloss of DeKalb County.
- 1858 Stephen D. Ward of DeKalb County.
- 1859-60 Philo Clark of Steuben County.
- 1861-62 Joseph A. Woodhull of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1863-64 Enos B. Noyes of Fremont, Steuben Co.
- 1865-72 Stephen C. Sabin of Orland, Steuben Co.
- 1873-76 Eugenius B. Glasgow of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1877-78 Henry P. Butler of Angola, Steuben Co.
- 1879-80 Ezekiel Brown of Crooked Creek, Steuben County.
- 1881-82 Daniel H. Roberts of Orland, Steuben Co.
- 1883-86 Doak R. Best of Angola, Steuben Co.
- 1887-90 A. Eugene Davis of Steuben County.
- 1891-94 William H. Brown of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1895-96 Emery G. Melendy of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1897 M. B. Butler of Salem Center, Steuben Co.
- 1897 to 1921 Apportionments. Steuben and LaGrange Counties formed one district as is still so at this time, 1954. The Representatives were as follows:
- 1899-1900 Stephen H. Fuller of Pleasant Lake, Steuben County.
- 1901-02 John J. Gillette of LaGrange, LaGrange County.
- 1903-04 Frank J. Salisbury of Orland, Steuben County.
- 1907-10 Luman K. Babcock of Topeka, LaGrange County.



- 1911-12 Maurice McClew of Angola, Steuben Co.
- 1913-14 Lewis Price of LaGrange, LaGrange Co.
- 1915-18 Robert W. McClaskey of LaGrange, LaGrange County.
- 1919-22 Raymond E. Willis of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1923-26 Max C. Murray of Stroh, LaGrange Co.
- 1927-30 Frank G. Gilbert of Pleasant Lake, Steuben County.
- 1931-32 Frederick G. Smeltzly of Howe, LaGrange County.
- 1933-34 Morris W. Hanson of Fremont, Steuben County.
- 1935-37 James A. Moody of Fremont, Steuben County.
- 1939-46 Max C. Murray of Stroh, LaGrange Co.
- 1947-52 Dudley W. Gleason of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1953- John W. Wainwright of Wolcottville, LaGrange County.

#### State Senators

The Senatorial District of which Steuben County was a part from 1833 to 1835 consisted of Marion, Hamilton, and all of the country north to the Great Miami Reservation.

The Senators serving were:

- 1833 Alexander F. Morrison of Marion County
- 1834-35 Henry Brady of Marion County.

The Senatorial District then apportioned and composed of DeKalb, Elkhart, LaGrange, Noble, and Steuben Counties. Those serving were:

- 1836-38 George Crawford of Elkhart County.
- 1839-40 Ebenezer M. Chamberlain of Goshen, Elkhart County.

In 1841 the Senatorial District was composed of DeKalb, LaGrange, Noble, and Steuben Counties. Those serving were:

- 1841-45 David B. Harriman of Marsailles, Noble County.

In 1845 the Senatorial District then apportioned and was comprised of DeKalb, Noble, and Steuben Counties. Those serving were:

- 1846-48 Madison Marsh of Orland, Steuben Co.
- 1849-50 Reuben J. Dawson of Spencerville, DeKalb County.

In 1851 the Senatorial District was composed of the Counties of DeKalb and Steuben. Those serving were:

- 1851-52 Reuben J. Dawson of Spencerville, DeKalb County.

- 1853-57 Alonzo W. Hendry of Angola, Steuben County.

In 1857 the Senatorial District was composed of the Counties of DeKalb, Noble, and Steuben. Those serving were:

- 1859-60 Alonzo W. Hendry of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1863-64 Timothy R. Dickinson of Auburn, DeKalb County.
- 1865-67 E. B. Noyes of Fremont, Steuben Co.

In 1867 the Senatorial District was composed of DeKalb and Steuben Counties. Those serving were:

- 1869-72 E. W. Fosdick of Butler, DeKalb County.
- 1873-76 W. Irving Howard of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1877-80 William M. Mercer of Corunna, DeKalb County.
- 1881-84 Francis McCartney of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1885-86 Nicholas Ensley of Auburn, DeKalb Co.

In 1885 the Senatorial District was composed of Steuben and LaGrange Counties. Those serving were:

- 1887-88 James S. Drake of LaGrange, LaGrange County.
- 1889-92 Orville Carver of Angola, Steuben Co.
- 1893-96 Silas P. McMannus of Howe, LaGrange Co.
- 1897-98 Newton W. Gilbert of Angola, Steuben County.

In 1897 the Senatorial District was composed of DeKalb and Steuben Counties. Those serving were:

- 1899-1900 Wm. H. Nusbaum of Auburn, DeKalb County.
- 1901-04 A. B. Darby of Waterloo, DeKalb Co.
- 1905-08 Thomas Wickwire of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1909-12 Stephen A. Powers of Angola, Steuben County.
- 1913-16 Glenn Van Auken of Auburn, DeKalb County.

In 1915 the Senatorial District was composed of the counties of LaGrange, Noble, and Steuben. Those serving were:

- 1917- William T. Green of Albion, Noble County, who died 1-23-1917.
- 1917-20 Clarence S. Munton, elected 2-6-17 of Kendallville, Noble County.

1921- Charles S. Nichols of Howe, LaGrange County.

In 1921 the Senatorial District was composed of the counties of DeKalb, LaGrange, and Steuben. Those serving were:

1923-24 Charles S. Nichols of Howe, LaGrange County.

1925-28 H. Lyle Shank (Dec.) Angola—Steuben County.

1929-32 Rollo N. Walter of LaGrange, LaGrange County.

1933-40 Larry Brandon of Auburn, DeKalb Co.

1941-48 Harry M. Shull of Auburn, DeKalb Co.

1949- Willis K. Batchelet of Angola, Steuben County.

The United States Congressmen from Steuben County were:

1905 Newton W. Gilbert, of Angola.

1907-16 Cyrus Cline of Angola.

1917-25 Louis W. Fairfield of Angola, all serving the 12th Congressional District.

Steuben County also had one United States Senator, representing the State of Indiana in Washington. He was:

1941-47 Raymond E. Willis of Angola.

From 1836 to 1954 Steuben County had 27 State Representatives and only 10 State Senators.

From 1836 to 1954 Steuben County had three United States Congressmen and one United States Senator.



## The Steuben County Bar

*By Harvey E. Shoup*

It has been the experience of nearly every pioneer settlement since the dawn of American History, as civilization moved westward across the primeval forests and fertile plains of the middle west, and across what is now Steuben County, Indiana, to first of all establish a seat of justice. Thus, for the purpose of maintaining law and order, and to meet the requirements of every well ordered and peaceful community, Angola was established by Judge Thomas Gale and Cornelius Gilmore as the County seat of Steuben County, in the year 1836, one year before the County was officially organized.

So, numbered among the vanguard of the early settlers, and following close upon their heels, came the lawyers, who took their rightful places as leaders of the thought of the community, defending the rights of the settlers, maintaining the high standards of their profession, and upholding the dignity of the Courts. Few, if any, of the professions have had more to do with the advancement of civilization than that of the lawyer. History records them as guardians of the peace of our land, protectors of the weak and innocent, and authors of the laws upon our statute books. The

records reveal that many of the members of the bar rose to positions of trust and confidence not only as members of legislative halls, but also as eminent judges on the benches of our courts.

Although there is no record that Judge Thomas Gale was engaged in the active practice of law, he not only served as a member of the State Legislature when Steuben County was organized and the County Seat established, but also served as one of the early Associate Judges of Steuben County. Through his influence, and by his generous offer to donate the land and build the Court House at Angola, the site was chosen and in 1841 the first Court House was finished and remained the seat of local county government and Court House until the present brick building was erected on the same site in 1868.

When Steuben County was organized, two higher courts were established called the "Circuit Court," and the "Probate Court." Each township had its local Justice Court. Owing to the scattered settlements several counties were included in a circuit, which was presided over by a Resident Judge, assisted by two Associate Judges. It was the custom in the early days to travel in turn



from one court house to another in the circuit to hold court. At first, a retinue of attorneys from the earlier settlements accompanied the Judges from one court to another. So, during these early days, non-resident attorneys coming from Fort Wayne, LaGrange, and Noble Counties practiced law in our courts.

Upon the adoption of the Constitution in 1852, a "Court of Common Pleas" was created, and the Probate Court was established. This Court of Common Pleas was also in turn abolished in the year 1873 and its jurisdiction was transferred to the present "Circuit Court," which now holds Criminal, Civil, and Probate jurisdiction.

Since it is a recognized fact that history is a narrative of events connected with the names of people, who have lived or are now living, and who have made such an impression upon the life of a community or nation as to merit mention and due respect by the historian, something of the life and background of such a person must of necessity be written.

As one after another of the members of the legal profession made their entrances and exits across the stage of life and activity of Steuben County, there are some, who, when they departed, left behind them more visible "footprints upon the sands of time" than others. Whether some have attained greater success and renown than others and were by virtue of their merits honored to places of position and esteem by their fellow men, depends upon the "yardstick" that an historian uses to measure such success.

Since a man's true greatness lies within his soul, and the real measure of a man is not in pounds avoirdupois, not in the accumulation of wealth, but in the strength and stability of his character, and in the manner in which he uses his God given talents and possessions for the benefit of human progress, posterity can only evaluate the man from his deeds and from the influences he leaves behind him. Therefore, there may be many great and good members of the legal profession, whose names are omitted from this account, whose footprints have either been overlooked by the writer or have been obliterated in the path of the onward march of civilization. If their names are recorded in the Book of Life, it matters little whether or not they grace the pages of history.

Heading the list of the early non-resident attorneys practicing law in Steuben County, Honorable

Charles W. Ewing won the distinction as being the "ablest jurist of the West." Although he rose to the appointment as the first Resident Judge of the circuit of which Steuben County then formed a part, his brilliant career as a lawyer and judge was cut short by his sudden death inflicted for some unknown reason by his own hand. Two other prominent lawyers who practiced about this time were the Honorable Judge John B. Howe, first resident lawyer of LaGrange County, and Andrew Ellison, also from LaGrange County. Both of these men were able exponents of law and justice in the days when counterfeiting and horse-thieving were rampant in the county, and when the "Regulators" (a law enforcement organization) held sway. The brilliant arguments and oratory of Honorable John B. Howe in favor of the Bill of Rights before the Constitutional Convention of 1852 are to this day referred to as being the wisest pronouncements at the convention. Other noted attorneys whose names are emblazoned on the early court records of the county may be mentioned. Honorable John Morris, of Auburn, first Judge of the Common Pleas Court, Breckenridge, Colerick, Ferry, Reuben J. Dawson, Thomas Johnson, Henry Cooper, and William H. Coombs, all of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The first resident attorneys to begin the active practice of law in Steuben County, Indiana, were Robert L. Douglas, Daniel E. Palmer, and Edward R. May, all coming about the same time, in the years 1839, 1840, and 1843 respectively. Douglas practiced for ten years before moving on West to Iowa. Palmer, coming from Noble County, practiced in our courts for thirty-five years, later associating with the firm of Morrow and Woodhull. Honorable Edward R. May, graduate of Yale, by his skill, energy, and interest in the moral uplift of the community, won for himself a place of high esteem, position, and influence in Steuben County. His career as a brilliant lawyer was cut short by his death in 1852.

In 1843 Alanson W. Hendry entered the legal profession and for twenty-three years practiced law with distinction, during which time he formed a partnership with Jesse M. Gale, was elected to the State Senate, and held other offices of trust and honor. Jesse M. Gale retired from active practice in 1883.

Leland H. Stocker, known as the "Vermont rail-splitter," was a Baptist preacher for seven years, before his admission to the bar. Mr. Stocker be-

gan the practice of law at Auburn, later coming to Angola where he held County Offices of Recorder, Clerk, and Auditor. During his practice he became associated with various law partners as follows: W. I. Howard in 1865, Capt. John K. Morrow in 1865, and with Jesse M. Gale in 1866. These firms were known as "Stocker & Morrow," "Stocker and Gale," and later in 1875 "Gale, Stocker & Best," having taken into their firm a rising young lawyer from Huntington County by the name of Doak Robert Best, which latter firm remained as such until 1883.

Capt. John K. Morrow, veteran of the Civil War, having held commissions as First Lieutenant and Captain, entered the practice of law in partnership with Daniel E. Palmer at Angola, where he established himself as a forceful attorney. Captain Morrow established the first newspaper in LaGrange County in 1857.

One of the outstanding citizens of Angola who made history, not only as a banker but as a lawyer was none other than William G. Croxton, a native of Ohio, who came to Angola in 1860 and entered into a partnership with A. S. Blake. Later he went into partnership with A. A. Chapin, with whom he practiced law for three years. When Chapin moved to Kendallville in 1863 he formed a partnership with Honorable Joseph A. Woodhull, later including Stephen A. Powers. "Bill" Croxton, as he was known by all of his friends, was instrumental in organizing the Steuben County State Bank in the year 1903. The firm of Woodhull and Croxton became famous as a law firm and remained so until Judge Woodhull's appointment to the bench as Judge of the Thirty-fifth Circuit of which Steuben County formed a part, upon the resignation of Judge James I. Best of Waterloo, Indiana. Opening his office first at Fremont, Indiana in 1859, Judge Woodhull came to Angola the next year and entered into a partnership first with Daniel E. Palmer and later with William G. Croxton practicing as Palmer, Croxton and Woodhull with distinction.

Another lawyer who began the practice of law at Fremont, Indiana, was Joseph B. Langworthy, who came to Steuben County from Ohio in 1869, and studied law in the offices of Gale & Best, and was admitted to the bar in 1881; he practiced with Gale, Best, and Langworthy, until Gale withdrew in 1884. Mr. Langworthy was a talented attorney and an able practitioner at the bar.

The name of E. B. Glasgow is perpetuated on the records of time as an able lawyer of Angola, and as a real estate dealer, before moving on west to Kansas. He served two terms in the State Legislature.

After serving his country in the Civil War with distinction and honor, Emery G. Melendy began the practice of law at Fremont, Indiana, where he was still residing at the time of his death.

In the late seventies the name of George B. Adams appears of record as an attorney at law, coming from New York first to Coldwater, Michigan, then in 1870 to Angola, where he was admitted to the bar. He also served as Prosecuting Attorney in 1879, having been elected on the Democratic ticket.

Probably the first native attorney to reach fame as an attorney at law and as a public servant, the name of Honorable Stephen A. Powers heads the list. Born in York Township, Steuben County, Indiana, December 28, 1851, he received a good literary education, in the Angola schools and in Hillsdale College, Michigan. In 1865 he began the study of law in the offices of Woodhull and Croxton, and after teaching school for several years attended the Northwestern Law School in Chicago and was admitted to the bar in 1874, and began the practice of law at Fremont, but the next year entered the firm of Woodhull and Croxton. Upon the appointment of Woodhull as Circuit Judge in 1876, Mr. Powers practiced as Croxton and Powers until that firm was dissolved and a new firm was formed first with A. T. Bratton in 1877 and later in 1883 with Emmet A. Bratton which firm was dissolved after one year. Stephen A. Powers served as Judge of the Thirty-fifth Judicial Circuit following the Honorable R. Wes McBride on the bench. Mr. Powers was elected to Congress and served in the House of Representatives several terms.

Long to be remembered as a talented member of the Steuben County Bar and who practiced with Honor and distinction in the courts of Steuben County for over forty years was the Honorable Doak Robert Best, born June 16, 1850 on a farm in Huntington County, Indiana. He attended Warsaw High School, Lebanon Normal College, and followed the profession as a teacher for several years. He studied law and came to Angola in 1875 and joined the law firm of Stocker & Gale. With that firm he practiced until 1883, when Gale and Stocker retired. Forming a partnership



with Emmet A. Bratton, the firm of Best and Bratton continued for six years. In 1893, Charles A. Yotter became a member of the firm and the firm was known as Best, Bratton, and Yotter until Judge Bratton was elected Circuit Judge, after which time the firm continued as Best and Yotter. Judge Best served in the State Legislature in 1883 to 1886, was County Attorney, City Attorney, and was Dean of the law department of Tri-State College. Judge Best was a conscientious, Christian, gentleman with the highest of ideals of honesty and integrity which traits he inherited no doubt from his Virginia forbears. He died in the year of 1939, an honored member of the Steuben County Bar. Prior to his death he formed a partnership with Harris W. Hubbard, a graduate student from the law department of Tri-State College, and the firm became known as Best and Hubbard until the death of Mr. Best.

One of the first students of the normal department of Tri-State College to enter the practice of law, Charles A. Yotter, a native of Iowa, was graduated in 1890 and began the study of law in the office of Best and Bratton. After two years he was admitted to the bar and became a member of the firm. By his ability as a forceful leader at the bar, and through the influence of the Christian principles practiced in his daily life, Mr. Yotter rose to be one of the most prominent members of the Steuben County bar. Upon the retirement of Emmet A. Bratton from the firm, the firm of Best and Yotter continued for many years until the sudden death of Mr. Yotter, in March 1931.

William E. Heckenlively, coming from York Township was a native of the County, obtaining his education at Hillsdale College, Michigan, from which he was graduated in 1890. Mr Heckenlively taught school for ten years in both country and high schools and after studying law in the law office of Best and Bratton for five years, was admitted to the bar in 1895. In 1911 he became a member of the firm of Bratton and Heckenlively.

One of the men who started at the bottom of the ladder and by his own efforts slowly but surely reached the top, round by round, was Judge Emmet A. Bratton. Born in Williams County, Ohio, July 16, 1855, he attended Angola High School, Hillsdale College, and later was graduated from the Law Department of the Ann Arbor University in 1881, and was admitted to the bar after studying

law in the offices of Woodhull and Croxton at Angola. In 1882 he formed a partnership with Stephen A. Powers, under the firm name of Powers and Bratton which was dissolved in 1884, at which time he began the practice of law with Honorable Doak R. Best, under the firm name of Best and Bratton. Mr. Bratton served in public office as Prosecuting Attorney and as City Clerk and Treasurer. In 1893, a young aggressive attorney named Charles A. Yotter was taken into the firm and the firm of Best, Bratton, and Yotter was formed which so continued until 1904 at which time Mr. Bratton was elected Judge of the thirty-fifth Judicial Circuit. Judge Bratton was possessed of a judicial mind and by his fairness and honesty rendered impartial service on the bench for seven years. In 1911 he again entered the practice of law, in partnership with William E. Heckenlively and the firm was known as Bratton and Heckenlively, in which firm he continued until his death. William E. Heckenlively moved westward to Colorado Springs.

Another member of the Powers family who added credit and won fame for the family, was no other than the Honorable Frank M. Powers, son of Calvin and Lucy A. (Gilbert) Powers, who emigrated from New York State and settled in York Township, where Frank M. was born on April 2, 1860. After his parents moved to Angola in 1878, Frank M. attended the public schools, studied law and subsequently entered the law offices of Woodhull and Croxton to study and was admitted to the bar in 1881 and through his fine ability and courteous manner became a successful lawyer and general favorite. He was especially noted for his courteous manners, his affability and close attention to business. In November, 1910, he was elected Judge of the Thirty-fifth Judicial Circuit of which Steuben County formed a part, and served with honor and distinction until 1914, when he resigned to take up the duties of Judge of the Appellate Court. Judge Powers never married, and probably his success and high esteem among his many friends was due entirely to his unselfish concern for others. The honor of being elected as Judge of the Appellate Court of Indiana, although being well deserved, was burdensome to Judge Powers, and his loneliness away from his lifelong friends contributed to shorten his life.

Among those members of the bar who stood out prominently in the annals of fame, and who, by sheer effort, fought his way to the top of the ladder

of success was no other than the Honorable Cyrus Cline. Born in Richland County, Ohio, July 12, 1851, a son of Michael and Barbara (Orewiler) Cline, he came with his parents to Steuben County, Indiana, in 1853 and settled on a farm in Scott Township. In 1872 when the family moved to Angola, Cyrus entered Hillsdale College, from which he was graduated in 1876. He held the office of Superintendent of Schools for six years. In 1880 he began the study of law in the offices of Woodhull and Croxton, and was admitted to the bar in 1882, and went into partnership with Joseph Butler, and later in 1884 formed a partnership with Benjamin F. Dawson. He was married October 6, 1880, to Jennie E. Gibson, and as the fruit of said marriage, a daughter Carrie was born to them, who is now the wife of Dr. Don F. Cameron. Mr. Cline was elected to a seat in the United States House of Representatives on the Democratic ticket, and served faithfully and honorably for many years.

The attorneys who were elevated to the bench as early Circuit Court Judges have all been able, conscientious men; upholding the dignity of their high office. Previous to 1852, those following the Honorable Charles W. Ewing were E. A. McMahon, and John W. Wright. Since 1852 those serving on the bench have been E. R. Wilson of Bluffton; James Bordon of Fort Wayne; Reuben J. Dawson, of Spencerville; Robert Lowery, of Goshen,—who later served as Judge of Allen Superior Court and as a member of Congress; Hiram S. Tousley, of Auburn,—who served two terms; James I. Best, of Waterloo,—an excellent trial lawyer; Joseph A. Woodhull, of Angola,—appointed in 1876 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Best; Charles A. McClellan, of Waterloo; R. Wes. McBride, of Waterloo; who served six years, and later became Judge of the Supreme Court; Stephen A. Powers, of Angola; William L. Penfield, of Auburn; Frank S. Roby, of Auburn; Ezra D. Hartman; James H. Rose, of Auburn; Emmet A. Bratton, of Angola,—who served ably and conscientiously for six years; Frank M. Powers, of Angola,—elected in 1910 and later elected as Appellate Judge; Dan M. Link, of Auburn, appointed; William P. Endicott, of Butler,—who served until Steuben County was included with LaGrange to make up the Thirty-fifth Judicial Circuit. Judge Clyde C. Carlin, of Angola, was appointed Judge of the LaGrange-Steuben Circuit in the year 1927, and Judge Donald H. Hunter was appointed to fill

the vacancy created by the death of Judge Carlin in 1948, and continued in office until 1953 when the circuit was separated and Steuben County became a single circuit. Upon the separation of the circuit comprising LaGrange and Steuben Counties, Judge Hunter continued as judge of the Thirty-fifth Judicial Circuit at LaGrange, and Harris W. Hubbard, of Angola, was appointed Judge of the Steuben Circuit Court where he is now serving in that capacity as Judge of the Eighty-fifth Judicial Circuit.

Early Probate Judges serving Steuben County prior to 1852 were Elias B. Smith and William S. Prentiss.

Judges serving on the bench of the Court of Common Pleas established in 1852, comprising LaGrange, Steuben, DeKalb, Noble, and Whitley counties were all non-residents of Steuben County, among whom may be mentioned John Morris, of Auburn; Egbert B. Mott, of Auburn; Lott B. Herrick, John C. Wood, Stephen Wildman, James C. Bodley, Sanford J. Stoughton, and William M. Clapp, of Albion. This court was abolished in the year 1873.

The records disclose that in the year 1885, the members engaged in the active practice of law arranged in the order of their admission to the bar were as follows: John K. Morrow, 1853; Joseph A. Woodhull, 1859; William G. Croxton, 1860; Emery C. Melendy, 1865; George B. Adams, 1873; Stephen A. Powers, 1874; Doak R. Best, 1875; A. Patterson; Benjamin F. Dawson; W. W. Birce; William M. Brown; Emmet A. Bratton, 1881; Cyrus Cline, 1882; W. C. Chadwick; William B. McConnell, and Sol. A. Wood. During this time R. Wes. McBride, of Waterloo, was Circuit Judge who served as such until 1888, when he resigned to become Judge of the Supreme Court of Indiana, at which time Stephen A. Powers of Angola was appointed to fill out his term.

Many of the lawyers who came and went during the turn of the century were honorable men, of eminent legal ability, who stood firm in their convictions before the bar of law and justice. Such a man was the Honorable William M. Brown, law partner of the late Judge C. Carlin, junior member. The firm of "Brown and Carlin" became known far and wide as a formidable array of legal talent, and together they gained an enviable reputation as honest, upright, and forceful lawyers. Other firms, who made their indelible marks on



the life of the community during this time were Best and Yotter, Bratton and Heckenlively, Croxton and Woodhull, and Bratton and Gleason.

During the forepart of the nineteenth century the records disclose other attorneys admitted to practice, among whom may be mentioned James R. Nyce, who was prosecuting attorney, court reporter and lawyer, Charles Beckholt, Thomas Wickwire, Frank J. Sailor, Joseph Butler, who held the office of Clerk of the Circuit Court, Fred Schneider, of Stroh, and Uriah L. Wambaugh, who later entered the loan and insurance business.

Joseph Butler, a native of Jackson Township, held the office of Clerk of the Circuit Court from 1874 to 1878, and later studied law with Woodhull and Croxton at Angola. He took a course in the law department of Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, and in 1881 formed a partnership for the practice of law known as Butler, Wells, and Cline, and in 1882, the firm continued as Butler and Cline until July, 1884. Mr. Butler never gave up farming, however, and in his later years turned over much of the responsibility of the large farm in Jackson Township to his son, Joseph William Justin Butler, who still resides on the farm.

Probably the one who made the greatest contribution to the immediate community in which he lived, and whose fame as a lawyer, public speaker and judge, spread far and wide, the name of Honorable Clyde Carlin stands out boldly at the head of the list of great men of Steuben County, who are classed as successful. It was on July 28, 1870, that Clyde C. Carlin, son of Robert V. and Maria (Kinney) Carlin, was born at Angola, Indiana. Graduating from Angola High School in 1888, he entered Tri-State College at Angola, then later Hillsdale College from which he was graduated in 1892. He studied law in the office of William M. Brown and later in 1898 formed a partnership, and for more than thirty years diligently practiced his chosen profession. On October 1, 1911, he was united in marriage with Gertrude Hauver, of Angola, Indiana, daughter of Henry Hauver, former sheriff of Steuben County. Judge Carlin was first appointed, then elected Judge of the Thirty-fifth Judicial Circuit in 1927 and served for twenty-one years on the bench, and by his fair decisions and kindly manners won for himself a host of friends, and became one of the leaders in his community. He was also famed as an after dinner speaker and of his great lectures now in printed form, probably the most important is his

speech called, "Sunrise," which he dedicated to his beloved wife, Gertrude. Also, "Indiana" became famous as he lectured throughout the Tri-State area. Judge Carlin died on October 11, 1948. The high esteem held for him by the members of the bar from the surrounding circuits as well as from his own court, is attested by the memorial resolutions adopted and spread of record from the jurisdiction of LaGrange, Whitley, DeKalb, Noble, Allen, and Steuben Counties.

"Though he was a resourceful and brilliant attorney, a just and upright judge, it was not these attributes that endeared him to us the most. We value and treasure the fact that he was human; that he had a friendly word and kindly greeting for everyone. He was a dispenser of sunshine and good cheer. Wherever he might be, he believed in casting the oil of human kindness upon the troubled waters of dissension and discord, thereby preventing lasting hatred and ill feeling among those concerned," as quoted by the Committee from the LaGrange County Bar, shows the esteem held for him by his friends.

The resolution of the Committee from the Whitley County Bar contains these words: "We remember him for his fairness and sincerity. He did much in maintaining public respect for our Indiana Judiciary. He was not only a conscientious and efficient jurist, but he reached out into the community and gave tirelessly of his energy and talent in striving to make his community and the State of Indiana a better place in which to live." In the resolution from the Committee of the Steuben County Bar are these words: "For more than half a century he taught a Sunday School class known near and far as "Clyde Carlin's Sunday School Class."

A contemporary of the Hon. Clyde Carlin and the present senior member of the Steuben County Bar, and holding the office of President Emeritus, Alphonso C. Wood now bears the distinction of having practiced the longest of any other member of the Steuben County Bar. Following his graduation from the University of Michigan, he was admitted to the bar in 1897, and has practiced continuously at Angola since said date, except for serving one term as Judge of the Appellate Court of Indiana. Upon his son's admission to the bar in 1929, he formed the partnership of Wood and Wood, which firm still exists, although his son, Theodore T. Wood, now holds the office of President of Tri-State College. In recent years Donald

L. Trennepohl has been associated in the offices of Wood & Wood.

Another member of the bar, who was a good student of law, and who began the practice of law in his later years was Milo Thompson, born in Branch County, Michigan, in 1862, came to the vicinity of Orland at an early age, taught school, and was admitted to the bar in 1896. He began the practice of law at Bronson, Michigan, but moved to a farm in Millgrove Township five years later and farmed for nine years, when he was elected to the office of Trustee of his Township, serving for several terms. In his later years he again took up law, served as Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, and upon the death of John W. McCrory was appointed as Justice of the Peace, which office he held until his death in April, 1949. Mr. Thompson never married.

H. Lyle Shank, coming from one of the oldest and most prominent families and pioneers of Steuben County, was born in Jackson Township, September 18, 1880, the son of Norman C. and Emma (Davis) Shank. Growing up on the farm he attended the district schools, and in 1902 was graduated from Tri-State College. Later he did postgraduate work in Indiana University, and entered the profession as a teacher, in which avocation he was very successful, as a public and high school teacher. He held the Superintendency of the Public Schools of Steuben County from 1911 to 1918 and was honored by the state association by his election as President of the County School Superintendents' Association of Indiana. He studied law while performing these duties and was admitted to the bar in 1930. He was successful as an able trial lawyer. He was chosen as President of the Steuben County Bar Association in April, 1943, and held that office faithfully and in an honorary capacity until his death in 1953. Mr. Shank was a veteran of the Spanish American War. He passed away in the Veterans Hospital at Lafayette, Indiana, in July, 1953.

One of the first members of the bar to be admitted after the turn of the century and who now holds an honored place as one of the senior members of the Steuben County Bar Association, Honorable Maurice McClew has by his honesty, integrity, and frugality, won a place of high respect and esteem in the hearts of his fellow men. Admitted to the bar in 1905, he has been in the active practice of law continuously for nearly fifty

years, except for the time he served as a member of the Indiana House of Representatives. He is now serving as President of the First National Bank, of Angola, which bank he was instrumental in helping to organize.

Dudley W. Gleason, one of the senior members of the bar association, began the practice of law at Fremont, Indiana, having been admitted to the bar of Steuben County in 1906. Mr. Gleason, by his ability as a trial lawyer, built up a good practice at Fremont, and later moved to Angola, where he practiced until he retired shortly after the second World War. At one time he formed a partnership with E. A. Bratton, calling the firm Bratton and Gleason, and later in 1939, took his son with him and is now practicing under the firm name of Gleason and Gleason, although the senior member is no longer active.

Dudley W. Gleason, Jr., now the duly appointed and acting Prosecuting Attorney of Steuben County, after taking a law course first at DePauw and then at the University of Illinois, studied law with his father and was admitted to the bar October 30, 1939. He immediately began the practice of law with his father under the firm name of Gleason and Gleason, which firm still exists. He served two terms as a member of the House of Representatives and upon the creation of the 85th Judicial Circuit, was appointed Prosecuting Attorney, taking office January 1, 1953.

When Tri-State College established a law course in their curriculum after the turn of the century, they made Doak R. Best the Dean of the department. This law course attracted many young men who wished to enter the legal profession, and one by one they were graduated and were admitted to the bar at Angola. Many of these began the practice of law at Angola. Those who became members of the local bar association were J. Clifford Blank, Bernard J. Dobrow, Augustus Stamand, James Flack, Louis Rotella, J. Stewart Doubleday, and Harry Marsh.

The attorneys who practiced law at Angola during the first quarter of the century and who left their mark on the memory of those in the community as aggressive members of the bar were Frank H. Walker and Peter L. Devita. No cause of action was too intricate or difficult for either of these young attorneys to attempt. Mr. Walker later moved to Fort Wayne where he continued in the practice of law, while Mr. DeVita moved east-



ward to New Jersey where he became a very successful attorney.

The minutes of the bar association reveal the record of Berenice M. Harrison, only lady attorney to actively practice law at Angola. Mrs. Harrison, wife of Herbert Harrison, formed a partnership with Willis K. Batchelet upon his admission to the bar, and together they built up a remarkable practice under the firm name of Harrison and Batchelet.

Mrs. Harrison served for many years as Court Reporter of the Steuben Circuit Court and was a very accomplished attorney.

Willis K. Batchelet came to Tri-State College from Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, was graduated from the law department and was admitted to the bar in 1925. Mr. Batchelet, first in partnership with Berenice M. Harrison, and later practicing alone, built up a remarkable practice. He served as city attorney of Angola for many years and taught a class for a time in the commercial law department of Tri-State College. He was elected to the office of State Senator of Indiana, and is at the present serving his second term.

Another member of the bar who was admitted to practice in the year 1925 was Conn H. L. Smith, who began the practice of law at Fremont. Later he moved his office to Angola and after practicing for a while, was appointed Justice of the Peace and is now serving in that capacity.

Two brothers, hailing from the upper peninsula of Michigan, who were graduated from the law department of Tri-State College and have practiced law in Angola for many years, are the Hubbard brothers. George Kenneth Hubbard was admitted to the bar in 1923. For a few years he practiced at Fremont, Indiana, and at Hammond, Indiana, but finally opened a permanent office at Angola where he is now practicing and enjoying an excellent practice. He is now serving as Justice of the Peace, and is President of the Steuben County Bar Association. Recently he formed a partnership with Gerald Deller, and is now (1954) operating under the firm name of Hubbard and Deller.

Honorable Harris W. Hubbard, admitted to the bar in 1928, immediately began the practice of law at Angola, and soon entered into partnership with Doak R. Best. After the death of Charles A. Yotter, the firm was known as Best and Hubbard. Mr. Hubbard built up a large practice and served as Prosecuting Attorney for fourteen years for

LaGrange and Steuben Counties. He also served as City Judge prior to his appointment as Judge of the newly created Eighty-fifth Judicial circuit, which office he now holds.

Of those members of the present bar of Steuben County, one name stands out prominently above the average in distinction. After receiving his degrees of A. B. and L. L. B. from the University of Michigan, Theodore T. Wood was admitted to the bar in 1929 and entered the active practice of law with his father, forming the partnership of Wood & Wood. He served as Prosecuting Attorney and built up an enviable practice. He served as a volunteer in the United States Army and received a commission as Captain in the Judge Advocate General's Department. When Tri-State College was looking, in the year 1949, for a man to head the institution as its President, the trustees elected Theodore T. Wood for the office, which he now holds. The college conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

Between the years of 1900 and 1925, the records show that the membership of the bar of Angola changed but little, but with the coming of students to Tri-State College, one by one graduated from the law department, receiving their LLB degrees and entering the practice of law. One outstanding member was the late George H. Leonard, who served as the first Judge of Allen County Superior Court Number Two before and after his military service in the second World War; in all, twenty-four years. In 1922, Judge Leonard was admitted to the bar, and served as deputy prosecuting attorney at Angola, prior to moving to Fort Wayne, Indiana. There he formed a partnership with David Hogg, and built up a remarkable practice under the firm name of Hogg and Leonard. He died suddenly at the age of fifty-seven years on December 24, 1951.

The record of the minutes of the bar association reveals the appearance of other attorneys who practiced for a short time at Angola. Doane MacDonald became a member of the association in 1928, as did John Fleming, both coming from Michigan by way of Orland, and both practicing for a short time only at Angola.

On June 27, 1942, the same record shows that a memorial service was held by the Steuben County Bar Association on June 27, 1942, in memory of Honorable John G. Yeagley, who passed away at South Bend, Indiana. Coming to Indiana in 1897, Mr. Yeagley first located at Fremont, Indiana, but

in 1903 he entered into partnership with Judge Joseph A. Woodhull and later with Frank M. Powers. In 1906 he led a successful campaign to raise money to build the Engineering Building at Tri-State College. Mr. Yeagley moved to South Bend in 1911. He was a good citizen, a good lawyer, and was very popular in the community.

The history of the bar would not be complete without an account of those men who held the office of Justice of the Peace. Probably no other office retained its personnel for longer periods than that of the Justice of the Peace. Usually the candidate for appointment or election was a member of the legal profession. Israel Stoddard was the first Justice of the Peace to hold office in Steuben County. Down through the years the records disclose one after another of the Justices of the Peace acting in their official capacity in acknowledgment of deeds. Those within the memory of the writer were Francis H. Ramsey, Frank Turley, John W. McCrory, Thomas P. French, and Milo Thompson. The three now acting at Angola are, G. Kenneth Hubbard, Conn. H. L. Smith, and Harvey E. Shoup.

Thomas P. French has the distinction of coming through various county offices prior to his admission to the bar. He held the office of County Surveyor for many years following his career as a public school teacher at Hamilton, and was later elected Prosecuting Attorney, which office he filled with merit. Mr. French confined much of his later practice to that of drainage litigation prior to his appointment as Justice of the Peace. He held the office of Justice of the Peace until his death in 1943.

Other members of the bar of 1954 who have been honored with high office are Honorable Harris W. Hubbard, who was appointed as Judge of the Eighty-fifth Judicial Circuit and assumed his duties on February 3rd., of 1953; Donald L. Trennepohl appointed, and now acting as City Judge of Angola, and Senator Willis K. Batchelet, elected to the State Senate of Indiana for two terms, and Fred W. Goudy, now teaching a course of law at Tri-State College.

The members of the Steuben County Bar organized and formed a Constitution and by-laws on September 6, 1926, and the first officers and members were as follows: Doak R. Best, President; Alphonso C. Wood, Vice President; Berenice M. Harrison, Secretary; Maurice McClew, Treasurer; Clyde C. Carlin, Thomas P. French, Conn. H. L.

Smith, Charles A. Yotter, Dudley W. Gleason, Sr., Milo Thompson, and Willis K. Batchelet.

The members of the bar of 1954 are as follows, listed in the order of their admission to the bar:

1. Alphonso C. Wood, 1897; 2. Maurice McClew, 1905; 3. Dudley W. Gleason, 1906; 4. G. Kenneth Hubbard, President, 1923; 5. Willis K. Batchelet, 1925; 6. Conn. H. L. Smith, 1925; 7. Theodore T. Wood, 1927; 8. Harris W. Hubbard, 1928; 9. Orville Stevens, 1929; 10. Harvey E. Shoup, Secretary, 1929; 11. Keith Oberst, 1931; 12. Dudley W. Gleason, Jr., Treasurer, 1939; 13. Fred William Goudy, 1943; 14. Donald L. Trennepohl, 1951; 15. James R. Nyce, 1912; 16. Gerald Deller, 1952; 17. Wilson E. Shoup, 1953.

The present law firms at Angola are: Wood and Wood; Gleason and Gleason, and Hubbard and Deller.

Orville Stevens and Harvey K. Shoup were admitted to the Steuben County Bar March 22, 1929. Mr. Stevens divides his time with the duties of Abstracting titles and also serves as Secretary of the First National Bank of Angola, which he was instrumental in organizing.

Harvey E. Shoup attended the State Normal College at Kalamazoo, and Tri-State College, was graduated from the International Business College, and taught school for seven years. He served eight years as County Recorder and eight years as Clerk of the Circuit Court, during which time he studied law and was admitted to the bar. For the past twenty-two years he has devoted his time to the practice of law, specializing in insurance, real estate, and probate work. For the past five years, he has served as Justice of the Peace for Pleasant Township, and has been secretary of the Steuben County Bar Association since 1948.

Fred William Goudy is now a teacher of Commercial law at Tri-State College and devotes a part of his time to the practice of law.

Donald L. Trennepohl was admitted to the bar in 1951, and entered the office of Wood and Wood immediately. Upon the elevation of Judge Hubbard to the Steuben County Bench, he was appointed City Judge and is now acting in that capacity, as well as enjoying a good practice.

In compiling the facts relating to this history of Steuben County Bar, it is gratifying to note that with few exceptions the attorneys and lawyers moving across the stage of activity in Steuben County in the past, as well as those whose privi-



lege it has been to serve as officers, have been, and are, men of high scruples who have upheld the traditional honor and respect of their high professions, and have kept their solemn oath taken upon their admission to the bar, "to support the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Indiana;" "to demean themselves uprightly," "to maintain the respect and dignity that is due the courts of justice and judicial officers;" "to maintain such actions—only as appear to them

legal and just;" "to employ only such means as are consistent with truth," "to never seek to mislead the court or jury by any artifice or false statement of fact or law;" "to abstain from offensive personality, advancing no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness unless required by the justice of the cause with which such party or witness is charged," "to encourage no action from any motive of passion or interest."

# Recreation in Steuben County

## Steuben Is a Beautiful, Scenic County

In the Angola Herald of April 20, 1955, appeared this descriptive story.

An enthusiast for the attractions of Steuben county contributes the following article which endeavors to impress upon those who are entranced with the beauties of the countryside and the lake areas, along with the woodlots as they show vigorous signs of renewed life with the opening of spring, that they can find no more alluring outlook anywhere than that offered here to nature lovers, particularly at this season of the year.

Karl Thompson, formerly Methodist minister at Fremont, Nevada Mills and Orland, is an enthusiastic propagandist for the beauties of nature which he found in that area and never tires of writing their praises in his column under the title "Outdoors in Hoosierdom" which appears periodically in the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel.

The subject seems to be popular for his column evokes letters from subscribers mentioning the beauty spots they also have witnessed here and have said that people travel long journeys to see no greater beauties in sections better advertised. It is noted, and we here at home have reason to wonder, if we realize how fortunate and happy we ought to be to have our lots cast in such inviting surroundings.

We are now approaching the most beautiful season of the year when nature will outdo itself over the preceding years in showing the grandeur that is to be found right here at home.

The purpose of this article is to outline for our readers a brief trip through scenes which are especially pleasing and which will compare well with any to be found anywhere else in all America, and the writer does not apologize to anyone for that seemingly extravagant statement. Henry Link, of Waterloo, in expressing an appreciation of Mr. Thompson's work and of some of the beauty spots he has found here, mentions the view at the crossing of Road 120 and 27 out over Green Lake and Marsh Lake and the "Eaton" Creek neighborhood to the southeast.

But let us start on a brief journey of about fifty miles which will cover many of the most beautiful vistas to be seen. One should travel north on Road 27 past the two mile corner on Road 27 over the Hoosier Hills near the highest point in the state of Indiana. Beyond are sweeping curves and hills which afford a view resembling the famed green slopes of Vermont. One should stop, of course, at the turn in the road which is a native tree lined avenue leading to Pokagon State Park entrance.

Near the entrance on the right is the forest of Norway pines, planted about twenty years ago, now grown to mature size. The well laid out routes through the park lead past the zoo, the picnic grounds, and on up through the woods in a winding road ending at Mt. Leiber, where people traveling in trailer homes find every convenience for outdoor camping for as long a stay as may be desired, from which the many interesting spots about the park can be explored and used. The journey back to Road 27 is not a duplication of scenery because the view traveling in either direction is different.

Turning north on 27 for a half mile the tourist reaches a gravel cross road and the left turn takes him up to the most rugged spot to be found in the county, with the improper title, "Hell's Point." Here on one side of the road is an overlook to accommodate the parking and turning of automobiles. The view on the left over the tips of the forest is a scenic unfolding of Pokagon State Park. The trees planted under the direction of the Conservation Department have grown so large that some of the former views over the park are now obscured. The foresters of the department could do well by trimming some of the trees so that view lanes might be restored where one could look over the rolling hills, the beautiful evergreens, maples and oaks furnishing brilliant colors, varying during the season, and affording one with a glimpse of Lake James two miles away, while the American flag waves above all from the entrance side of the park.

On the right one would be well paid for a walk up the sharp elevation from which point one can



see six lakes, including Lake James, Snow Lake, two Otter Lakes, Marsh Lake, Lake George and now and then others through the trees. The views from this location are equal to any that may be found in the Smoky Mountains and other more famed spots.

Returning to Road 27 the highway crosses Otter Lake creek, which empties from Marsh Lake in the center of a considerable area of land recognized as the Eaton Creek flats embracing probably two square miles of lowland. This spot has often been considered by nature lovers as an admirable place for the location of a federal game preserve, especially as a resting place for bird life and water fowl on their semi-annual journeys north and south. It could also be stocked with marsh animals, such as muskrat, mink and perhaps beaver. It would lend itself excellently to the preservation and development of wild life in this area.

Another half mile brings the traveler to the crossing of 120 and 27, which Mr. Link emphasized in his newspaper contribution as a beauty spot. It is only a few rods south of the toll road crossing of 27 where one may now see the magnitude of the project under construction.

Traveling west over 120 the road, winding and hilly, passes near the northern shore of Snow Lake and one can see that much development has taken place in the construction of summer homes in that vicinity. The first main highway to the south travels down past upper Lake James, which affords a long range view of this most beautiful lake. On the right is Jimmerson Lake and finally the outlet of Lake James into Jimmerson Lake, and crossing the creek the journey veers to the left and skirts the beautiful residential sections on the west shore of Lake James.

Coming out into the open highway the traveler will turn at the T-road to the right which passes along the north shore of Crooked Lake and thence north to the main highway, which leads along the narrow neck of Crooked Lake to Lake Gage.

There is not much difference of opinion among nature lovers other than that Lake Gage is the most beautiful lake in Steuben county. Now that one can travel the full circumference of the lake, including Lime Lake, he is afforded the choicest of views. Returning around the west side of the lake to the Crooked Lake road, a gravel road crosses the outlet of the main body of Crooked

Lake and the road travels behind many lovely homes on the south side of Crooked Lake to the county farm road where one may enter the Steuben County Park.

Returning from the park he should continue north to the Lake James Assembly road along the south shore of Lake James past the golf course and turning to the right over a succession of sharp hills, from which one may get a marvelous view of Lake James. The sightseer should take care to park on the summit of the hills so his car is not hidden to other travelers.

Then out on to Road 27 one gets a marvelous scenic view from the leveling off of the hill country down to Angola. The motel at the top of the hill is most properly named, "Panorama" for from its upper levels the scenery justifies the name.

Of course, there are many other spots favored by tourists and home people in Steuben county, which can be taken separately. There is the journey west from Angola past Silver Lake, down to Golden Lake, and back the way of Fox Lake. Many also like Road 27 to Pleasant Lake and then turn east to Hamilton, where one will find a good highway around the lake, affording many wonderful vistas. Or, to the northeast one can travel around Clear Lake near the shore most of the way, and will find comfortable accommodations in the town of Fremont.

This routing will afford an opportunity to see much of the beauty of Steuben county. For the latter part of April and the first few days of May there will be ever changing scenes as the Redbud, the Dogwood and the Tulip tree put forth their gorgeous garments and wild flowers may be seen along the roadside and in the woods.

After one has made these trips a few times he will be impelled to express himself with William Herschell's lines, "Ain't God good to Indiana."—He gave her Steuben county.



## Recreational Industry and the Lakes of Steuben County

*By Georgia Watkins*

Steuben County has been called "The Land of the Lakes." There are around one hundred of these,

including those down to the very smallest. No other county in the middle west is more abundantly endowed with beautiful lakes and attractive scenery. They vary in size and shape and nearly all the larger and middle sized lakes have shorelines that have been developed into attractive cottage parks and recreational centers.

Being inland lakes the waters along the shores warm to comfortable temperatures and make bathing delightful. Waters that are not too rough and are yet stirred by gentle winds and cooling breezes make it possible for boating craft to be on the lakes all summer, affording much pleasure. Shores that are visible from one part of a lake to another, display shorelines of variety and interest that are usually lined with shade trees which are a part of the great belt of hardwood forests that lie between the Ohio river valley and the great plains. Some of the lakes have steep banks and others, gently rolling land. Bays and inlets add to the attractiveness of many shores. There are lakes unsuitable for real-estate development which are yet suitable for fishing and hunting.

The surface of the county rises gradually from the south to the central and northern parts, and is higher generally than the surrounding counties. The principal stream is Pigeon Creek which drains Cedar Lake and swamps in the north, whence it flows in a southerly course, and thence to the west line of the county. Crooked Creek drains most of the northwest part of the county, and has its source in Crooked and James lakes. Fish Creek runs from the north to the south, along the eastern line of the county. These streams and their tributaries, sometimes connect the lakes into a continuous watercourse.

Looking down on Steuben County from the air, we see a panorama of rolling hills and fertile valley, with these lovely lakes cupped here and there over landscape green with forest and woodland scenes. It is colorful with beige and russet wheat fields, green pastures and other crops. The towns and villages are partially hidden by the shading trees and give an impression of restfulness and charm, while traffic flows along on many busy highways.

For those who live around the lakes, every season brings its own special interest and charm. In winter the lakes are frozen over with ice ten to twelve and sometimes fourteen inches thick. It is then that ice fishing affords a sport that many en-

joy, while ice-skating offers an exhilarating pastime for others. The winter sun sets far to the south and is often very beautiful. The freshly fallen snow in the woods is oftentimes with scarcely a track and the soft damp snow clinging to the branches of the trees creates a white world that is most enchanting. Bright starlight nights and moonlight casting long shadows through the woods, will inspire a little poetry in almost any receptive mind.

Spring comes with the warm returning sun, the melting ice, the thawing earth and all the pungent odors of spring soil, wind and sun, bringing forth new life. In the creek bottoms are the pussy-willows, the dogwood blossoms and the red bud. The wild flowers carpet the ground and the buttercups and trilliums grow in the damp shady places. All these, along with the birds and wild water-fowl seem a part of the lakes in the springtime.

Memorial Day with its commemoration of the dead, is also the time that brings the opening of the summer season and the highways are filled with people anxious to get back to the lakes and nature after the winter months. A busy tide of tourists and vacationers continues until Labor Day. The recreational industry welcomes this opportunity to display the lake attractions and cater to the vacation and tourist trade. The annual vacation has become a part of the American way of living. Increasing numbers find it enjoyable to spend it in this "Land of the Lakes."

With the ending of the summer months, the tourist and cottage trade is over. The opening of the schools and Colleges and work and fall sports draw the attention of the people away from the lakes. For those who remain and have homes, two beautiful months are left to enjoy the flaming beauty of autumn and see the lakes when the skies were never bluer. It is wonderful to drive through the country and watch the sun and earth, water and air, bring to maturity all the abundance of the beautiful good earth, all of which has been supplied by the husbandry of man, in accordance with a law and a divine order, down to the last blade of grass.

The value of the lakes is not all in dollars and cents. There is the cultivation of the aesthetic quality in the beauty they bestow. The early morning fisherman or hiker thrills to the joyous chorus of the song-birds and hears the call each to the other makes. When rowing out on to the lake in the stillness and freshness of the morning, he can



observe with wonder the variegated shades of green in the foliage of the trees against a lovely sunrise; or coming to the end of the day, watches the splendid sun sink away beneath the horizon, leaving the western clouds tinted with rainbow hues reflected in the waters, to create in all a beautiful sunset. Later on when followed by the crescent of the new moon, there is a deep silvery path in the rippling waters; or when the full harvest moon rising over the hills and trees casts sleeping shadows and the enchanted stillness of moonlight and starlight nights is a benediction over the good earth.

It is a rewarding experience in the joy of living to take an ordinary row-boat with an out-board motor attached and at a leisurely pace encircle a lake in either the morning, or evening twilight and feel a kinship with the poet, Whittier, when he wrote, "And something of this sunset has passed into my soul."

Nature clothes the county in wonderful colors in the fall and every tree is an "Indian Princess" of soft and flaming hues. Then the sunsets are in deeper and stronger colors and the bright blue weather of October passes into the haze of Indian Summer and the falling leaves. Then fall makes its exit, and winter begins.

When temperatures drop and the first snows appear all but a few of the stragglers of the waterfowl have left the northern lakes. It is not long until ice starts to form on the water. A cluster of lanterns on a bay or neck, where the ice is thick enough, proclaims the fact: the fishermen are out again.

Winter holds a long sway. In a climate where the seasons are clearly defined, the people look forward to the coming of spring, and all is hustle and bustle to get ready for another season.

It is a privilege to live where nature has been generous with great natural beauty; to be able to appreciate it, and have a part in helping to preserve it; to share it, and pass it along for others to enjoy.

Believing that the lakes of the county are of such special interest to the people who live here and the people who would like to know more about them, we have secured writers to describe the development of many of them and particularly the larger and more important ones. For those which are smaller we have located them and listed some of the more important things about them.

In the following lake writings I wish to acknowledge the help and continued use of the Indiana Lake Guide; The literature from the Department of Conservation, through the State Library; and Lake Writers such as Denzill Doggett, George William Miles and Preston Miles, and George S. Cottman; The State Geologists, Blatchley's Report 1900. Also, Thomas Young's "Land of the Lakes" was a source of inspiration.

We hope that we can help spread the fame of the Steuben County Lake Regions and create in more people an appreciation and interest in the conservation of its beauty and charm.

The Lakes of Pleasant Township  
 The Lakes of Jamestown Township  
 The Lakes of Clear Lake Township  
 The Lakes of Otsego Township  
 The Lakes of Fremont and Scott  
 The Lakes of Steuben Township  
 The Lakes of Salem Township  
 The Lakes of Jackson Township  
 Lake Gage  
 The Lakes of Millgrove Township

#### Hamilton Lake

Hamilton Lake, formerly known as Fish Lake, is located in the southeast corner of Steuben County, in Otsego Township. It shares with Clear Lake the distinction of being the fourth largest lake in Indiana, as the Indiana Lake Guide lists both of these lakes as 765 acres of water surface. It extends north from the town of Hamilton about three miles and is two miles wide. The bottom is gravel and the depth varies from 15 feet to 62 feet. Black Creek empties into it from the northeast as the principal stream feeding the lake, although considerable water is fed in during high water and heavy rainfall by Dirrim Creek at the Tamarac and Kanous Creek in Muskrat Bay. Several years ago during high water, a peat-bog broke off from the mouth of Kanous Creek and completely disappeared. The out-let is Fish Creek, just north of Hamilton, which seeks the waters of the St. Joseph River and thence to the Maumee and Lake Erie.

It is a natural lake made by filling in and making an embankment at the southern end, now a part of road 1, at the mill pond. Several small lakes were made one when the water-level was raised to provide water-power in past years. In 1836 Nicamor Munson entered a large tract of land of sev-

eral hundred acres, including where the town of Hamilton is located and the tract that included the water-power on Hamilton Lake. A Dr. Tuttle who represented a group of Eastern Capitalists, known as the Steuben County Company, purchased the water-rights. In 1837 a dam and levee was built and the water-level was raised nine feet, combining three bodies of water.

In 1837 Sydney Gambia came to the village and became an active early citizen. He was also an agent for the company; built a grist mill, and a few years later purchased the water-power of the company. In time the grist mill was replaced by a good saw mill. A washout occurred in the dam. Mr. Gambia and Mr. Waterman went out onto the dam at midnight. The flood waters were running high and a tree overturned in such a manner as to kill Mr. Waterman and injured Sydney Gambia.

In 1859 John Fee, who bought out Sydney Gambia, built a flouring mill on the old saw mill site.

Later, the water-power rights were gained by the Fort Wayne Power Company. In time it was purchased by Girt L. Gnagy and Dr. Frank Cameron who used the power to generate electrical current.

The State Highway Department now owns the water-power on Hamilton Lake, which was acquired when State Road I was constructed and the old mill and water rights were purchased.

"Due to an ensuing controversy regarding the water level of the lake between some of the property owners and the mill-owners, the Steuben Circuit Court adjudicated the matter and rendered a decision as to the authorized level. This is entered in Order Book 41 (civil) p. 530, under Cause No. 5155, dated September 30, 1916. The level set at the time, is the same as the one used by the division of Water Resources, Department of Conservation, in its petition to establish the average normal water level of Hamilton Lake at elevation 898.83 feet, mean sea level datum, or 8.83 feet on staff gage under cause mp. 2455. This level was established in July 1947." "No depth contour map has been prepared for Hamilton Lake." (The above quotation was from the writing of Denzil Doggett, on Hamilton Lake, for the Department of Conservation.)

Lake vegetation, which is necessary to the propagation of fish, is very plentiful and it was once appropriately called Fish Lake, as every species of fish caught in the waters of Steuben County are

caught here. The natural formation of the lake makes a challenge to any fisherman, due to its many sand-bars, that make ideal breeding grounds, and some very deep holes.

The shores of this lake are rolling and wooded. There are over six hundred and thirty cottages and homes in the surrounding areas, and the tendency is to make permanent homes on the lake. There are many of these, and the town of Hamilton has residents who came there to be near a lake in the years of their retirement.

The Island Park is a large island consisting of thirteen acres, in the southwest part of the lake towards Hamilton. It was formerly owned by Frank Fee and was sold by him to Jeremiah Gnagy in 1889, who with his wife, Rebecca (Houlton) Gnagy, whose parents were first settlers in DeKalb County—started one of the first resorts on Hamilton Lake at that time, as a camp-site for revival meetings, picnic-grounds, and political rallying place. It had boats, feed barn, and stand; cooking was done in a tent.

About this time in 1890, Max and William Houlton built a large flat bottomed steamboat, twenty-four feet wide by seventy feet long, propelled by two paddle-wheels, one on each side, on which they had a four piece band furnishing music for square dancing. It could dance six sets, and the musicians were Matthew, Dode, Max, and Roger Houlton. It was called the "City of Hamilton" and was on the lake for two years.

The "Mildred," a steam boat was built by Glenn White and Stanley Bently and put on the lake for pleasure and transportation in the nineties and early nineteen hundreds when the Wabash Railroad ran excursions to Hamilton, and Cold Springs was the only resort on the lake. Later, the "Reliance" and "Ilene" were gasoline passenger launches operated by Roscoe Watkins until 1913, when C. B. Dirrim built the "Vella May," a large passenger and pleasure launch that was on the lake a long time; at the last, it served as a recreational feature for the Island Park Hotel.

Today speed boat service is provided by Fred Bergman who uses his boats in St. Petersburg, Florida, in the winter time. Jack Crain, of Hamilton has a very complete boat service.

In 1913, the Island was platted to lake lots by High Henry and William Thomas of Auburn, Indiana. They built the Island Park Hotel and constructed a bridge from the island to the mainland.



It was purchased by Charles Hanes in 1916 and developed and operated by him and his wife, Louise Hanes, until his death in 1941. There are about 40 cottages and homes on the Island.

Fountain Park is located at the head of the lake, on the east side, and has about twenty-eight cottages. It was once a part of the George Rinehart farm, which was inherited by Mable Day and her brother, Mark Rinehart. Mable Day's husband, Roger Day, bought Mark's share and in 1945 platted the lake frontage to off-lots; believing it would yield fountains for the owners, he desired it to be called "Fountain Park."

The present site of Clark's Landing was once a part of the Rube Dally farm. The farm extended from the Coldwater Road to the lake. During the years a son, Rant Dally, inherited this land, and in time sold a portion of it to Charlie Hanes.

Mr. Hanes moved a house to the water's edge, and resided there eight years. Mr. Hanes then bought a hotel at the south end of the lake and sold the property to Glenn Clark.

Glenn and Mable Clark, along with their son, Floyd Clark, started to develop this lovely spot at the head of the lake, by building boats for rent and sale. It is now a resort for fishermen and their families, having cabins, store, boats, and bait.

The landing has become noted as a quiet retreat for fishermen and their families, who enjoy the art of angling and just relaxing in an atmosphere of beauty, such as the lake affords.

Black-creek flats was laid out to lots by James Cox, formerly of Hamilton, in 1938, and comprises a small number of cottages and lots in the bottom lands of winding Black Creek.

The Creek lands and trees have always been a natural habitat for wild flowers and birds. Mrs. Morsches of Fort Wayne, whose husband and family had a cottage at Cold Springs for a number of years, became greatly interested in Ornithology. The Creek-flats were her favorite haunts for the study of birds. In July 1925-26-27, she reported seeing a large flock of Prothonotary Warblers. They came in just at sunset. She reported this unusual experience to the Audubon Society, of which she was a member, as her most thrilling experience of the year. Since to find a pair of these birds is considered worth reporting, this brought forth exclamations of surprise and envy.

Cold Springs resort, on the east side of Hamilton Lake, has been in the Watkins family for four generations. It has a mile and a half of shore-line,

extending from the mouth of Black Creek on the north, to Road one, at the southern end. It takes its name from the natural springs for which it was first known. A large fountain is always flowing in front of the hotel.

The land was entered by Sydney Gambia. It was purchased by Simpson Watkins in 1870 from Jerry Kepler. It was a favorite picnic grounds for Sunday Schools and civic groups in that decade.

In 1881 it was bought by his son, Homer Watkins, who with his wife Emily (Haughey) Watkins, became interested in a recreational resort, having boats, feed barn, cottages, and hotel. Platted to lake lots in 1895, it became known as the "Cold Springs Resort." It is the oldest lot development on the lake, and the first cottage was built in 1885.

There are one hundred and forty cottages at the present time. Homer Watkins used a leasing arrangement for this resort, and since his death in 1950, at the age of ninety-five, his grandsons, Lyle and Robert Watkins, act as trustees of his estate.

An older citizen of Bryan, Ohio, has a ticket to a square dance given in 1881, that he claims was the first dance ever given at Cold Springs.

Before World War I, band concerts, Public Speakers, base-ball, bowling and sliding and bathing entertained the crowds; while piano and drums made music for dance groups. Older people will remember when Erman Shank, of Angola, played piano; Spiel Wiess, also of Angola, drums; and Doc Termaine, the violin. In 1916 Roscoe Watkins enlarged the old pavilion to meet the new Jazz age; in 1923 he built it anew and was able to meet the demands of crowds for the modern dance orchestra. It has the largest floor space in this end of the State. Bands developed on the campus of Indiana University including Amos Otstot and Max Greer and Fred Dale, have played engagements at this spot; as have Bill Sawyer, Billy Leighton, and Bill Shephard, of Michigan University.

Since 1941 Roscoe Watkins' sons, Lyle and Robert Watkins, have managed this resort enterprise. They feature a Ball-room and besides a regular orchestra, frequently employ nationally known bands such as Vaughn Monroe, Johnny Long, Harry James, Jimmy Dorsey, Billy May and Woody Herman.

Along with this they have a good Commercial Beach, Coffee Shop, Hotel, Boat and Cottage Rentals, improved roads and parking lots, making it one of the well known pleasure spots of the county.

Fine native timber and natural springs along

with gently rolling land and a view from the east side towards the sunsets have been important factors in the popularity of this resort.

Circle Park, formerly known as Enfield's Landing, was started as a recreational center prior to the First World War along about 1912. Fred Enfield, who owned the farm and lake frontage, found that the public demanded a place for picnics and reunions. In 1916 he built a large three story building to be used as a tabernacle and gathering place. Later it was found to prove unsatisfactory and at that time was turned into a skating rink with the old fashioned sidewalk skates being used. Mr. Enfield then started a bathing beach and constructed a toboggan slide from poles cut from the woods. Two old log cabins were moved to the park and were rented during the summer to fishermen and their families. These two cabins still stand and one has been remodeled for a home. The growing popularity of Enfield's Landing caused Mr. Enfield to place the park and farm for sale.

In 1925 Homer and Dale Waterhouse purchased the Enfield holdings and immediately started out to construct an amusement center. The entire 18 acres were cleared of brush and the grounds made ready for use. The large pavilion was remodeled with space for a modern skating rink, a large reunion hall and storage space. Outside burners and free tables were placed for picnickers. Concession stands were built and a modern restaurant known as Circle Inn was added. The toboggan slide and beach were redone. Thousands of loads of gravel and sand were added to the beach. Regulation diving stands and piers were built on the beach. New bath-houses and restrooms were added. More fishing boats, outboards, passenger boats, and canoes were added. A large area was set aside for a kiddies' playground with slides, swings, and other devices. To add to the recreational facilities, a small merry-go-round and a pony ride have been added. Many people in the later years have purchased mobile homes so an ultra modern trailer park with spaces for 60 trailers was added. An athletic field has been maintained for baseball and other sports. With all these facilities, many organizations began booking annual outings at Circle Park. Today every week-end is booked with factory, church, and fraternal groups. Family reunions still hold the spotlight during the entire season. Free outdoor movies furnish a lot of enjoyment on Sunday evenings.

Circle Park today is widely known over the

Tri-State area as one of the leading recreational centers, and the slogan of the "Family Playground" is well known.

The resort area now known as Oakwood Park and Oakwood Shores was first obtained from the U. S. General Land Office by Nicanor Munson of Cattaraugus County, New York, on August 1, 1837. These papers were signed by Martin VanBuren, then president of the United States.

This land passed through the estates of various well known family names in the area such as Fee, Kepler, Sewell, Husselman, and Cameron, until 1881, when it was acquired by Hiram Sweet. On June 24, 1912, Hiram Sweet sold to the DeKalb Mortgage and Loan Company of Auburn, Indiana, a strip of land 40 feet wide (known as Shoestring Drive) commencing at present State Road One, north of Hamilton, following the meandering of Hamilton Lake (then known as Fish Lake) together with a tract of land at the northerly end which was platted and recorded as Oakwood Place, a village. Along the lake front of the resort area, thickly wooded with beautiful oaks, ash, and wild cherry, were constructed numerous summer homes.

On June 3, 1922, Girt L. Gnagy purchased from the DeKalb Mortgage and Loan Company the strip of land known as Shoestring Drive, together with all the remaining unsold lands of Oakwood Place. He performed much work and spent considerable money in developing the shoreline, improving the road, and at the north end of Shoestring Drive constructed approximately a thousand feet of concrete sea wall in front of which was one of the largest natural sandy bathing beaches on Hamilton Lake. During the period of his ownership many additional summer homes were constructed in Oakwood Place by people seeking the restful atmosphere and good fishing on Hamilton Lake.

On June 4, 1945, the County constructed a new public highway from the intersection of State Road one, extending in a northerly direction, connecting with an established street in Oakwood Place, thence connecting to a resort area known as Circle Park; providing a continuous lake drive serving the resort areas on the east side of Hamilton Lake, from the town of Hamilton.

On February 2, 1953, Lyle E. Gnagy purchased from Glenn O. Sweet, a tract of land between the new road and Shoestring Drive, and together with the heirs of the Girt L. Gnagy estate, combined



these lands to form what is now known as Oakwood Shores. This meandering shoreline provided recreational facilities for an additional 60 odd families. At the present time these families are in the process of constructing summer homes in this resort area.

About 1920 Girt L. Gnagy subdivided a wooded part of his farm which fronted on Hamilton Lake under the name of Lily Dale Subdivision. This section, though small, was wooded with stately oaks and afforded many families a restful recreation spot on Hamilton Lake.

The Hamilton Boosters Club, an organization of civic minded citizens, sponsored the development of the Girt Gnagy Athletic Field just west of Hamilton. This tract of land, donated by Lyle, Max, and Lynn Gnagy, sons of Girt Gnagy, to the Hamilton Boosters Club, is to be used by the High School for its athletic events (track schedule) and the community for its summer vacation program.

It will contain a 440-yard tract, a baseball field, tennis and badminton courts, bleachers and everything to make a beautiful, well-rounded Athletic Field. Eventually, its sponsors hope to have an athletic field of which to be highly proud.

Edgewater Beach is a lake frontage on the west side of the lake that has lots laid out by Charles Hanes, and there are seven homes at the present time (1954).

Highland Park development, which is off the lake on the west side, was promoted by George Illges of Madison, Wisconsin. It has about sixty cottages and homes. About six hundred lots were purchased recently by Ford Kepler, who intends reconvertng part of them back to farm lands.

Penn Park is a peninsula that projects out into the lake from the west and had a community of fifteen cottages and homes on Penn Bank and fifty-eight on Penn Park. Russell's Point was platted and promoted by the James Russell family. They platted about a mile and a half of shoreline on the west side of the lake; it is now known as Forest Park, with sixty cottages and homes built since the First World War.

Nearly all the beautiful cottages and homes on this lake are situated amongst groves of trees, and have wonderful views. There are roads so that one can drive around the lake and a good part of the time be so near the shore as to be able to get a nice view of the lake.

The tamarack at the head of the lake is a natural

habitat for the nesting and feeding of birds and a good hide-out for small game.

The first survey made of Otsego Township, including Penn Park, was made in May 1831, by George W. Harrison. This tract of land was first purchased from the United States by John Stealy in March 1837, under the presidency of Martin Van Buren, and contained forty-nine acres.

Various portions of this tract were sold and the small portion known as the peninsula, and consisting of 13.41 acres, was finally purchased by George R. Farnum, June 16, 1892, from Calvin and Alta Fee.

The first cottages built, were owned by Charles Kepler and George Farnum. Supplies were moved into these cottages by boat. An old Corduroy road led through the swamp and into the peninsula.

In November 1893, Mr. Farnum also purchased land for road purposes from Calvin and Alta Fee.

July 8, 1916, Ella Farnum Omstead (wife and sole heir of George Farnum), and Albert H. Omstead sold the land to James S. Peddicord.

July 10, 1916, the Peninsula was made into plats to be known as Penn Park—the lots to be numbered from one to eighty-nine and an Association was formed with a constitution and By-Laws.

Mr. Peddicord built cottages number thirty-nine and forty, known as the Dan Leas Cottages and now owned by their daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bloom. Mr. Peddicord occupied this cottage while he was building the road and improving the Park.

After Ella Farnum Omstead's death in 1920, Frank Kepler bought cottage number eight and then number forty-seven and established a boat livery. He also bought the next two lots in order to take care of his boats. He later built the cottage on lots number forty-four and forty-five and operated the boat livery until his retirement in 1942.

The remainder of the lots were sold to individuals and at present Penn Park consists of eighty-nine lots and sixty cottages.

The road has been improved and is maintained by the County Highway Department. The Constitution provides that no business enterprises be conducted in the Park, thus making it a residential resort.

The only undeveloped part of the lake is at the head and is owned by Roger Day of Edgerton, who promoted Fountain Park. It has a high hill from which there is a striking and commanding view

of two-thirds of the lakes area of 765 acres. Mr. Day is holding the spot open.

It slopes down onto the largest part of the lake on the north shore. To the left is Fountain Park, Clark's Landing, Black Creek, and Cold Springs. The large body of water that is called the neck extends out to Road One and separates part of the Cold Springs and Circle Park shores. To the right are the long shorelines of Forest Park and Penn Park separated by Muskrat Bay. Down through the center looking out across the lake southward is the north shore of Circle Park and the steep banks of Oakwood. Off to the right is the Island. The large body of water that lies between the west shores of Oakwood and the Island extends down through the narrows into the millpond. To the right of the Island is Fee Lake which was one of the original five small lakes that were here when John Fee owned fifteen hundred acres of land that included part of the west and south shores of the lake and where the town of Hamilton is located.

There is a sunken island between the westernmost point of Oakwood and a point across on Forest Park and near where Shag island is now. The story has come down that the Indians used this island to trap deer by herding them onto the island for easier hunting.

Mr. Day, I understand, is interested in Indian lore and believes the spot at the head was once an Indian Ceremonial Grounds. It is well founded. In the literature of the State, (George S. Cottman) I have read that the early maps of the first surveys in 1821 and 1828 are now on display in the office of the State Auditor, and these show an Indian village one mile north and a little east of Hamilton Lake on the southwest quarter of section 15, township 36, 14 east. It was further confirmed by the Rube Dally family who lived in the neighborhood; and the Carpenter family who once lived on the Roger Day farm and found many Indian relics there. Further, it states that these maps show six trails leading out from the village, marking it as a settlement of some importance. The hill we are noting is on the Roger Day farm across the road from the location of the village. The instinct of the Indian for choosing a strategic location is well known to all who have given it any study. In time of danger, with the tamarack to the west and the lake in front, it is easy to imagine them lighting their signal fires from this vantage point, and to call to mind, when

with moccasined feet, they ran swiftly through the forests; and in picturesque garb and birch-bark canoe, they paddled silently over the lake and hunted the elusive bass for which the lake is noted.

Lake summary: The lake's area is 765 acres. The Lake's property and improvements pay 24.2 per cent of total taxes for Otsego Township. The number of lake subdivisions is fourteen. The number of cottages that rent is approximately eight per cent. The number of homes and cottages is six hundred and thirty. There are six boat liveries, three Hotels, two large recreational resorts and one smaller resort, one skating rink, one ball-room and two commercial beaches.

The Island Park Hotel is situated on the northern tip of the Island Park, and its view commands the lake from three sides. It was built by High Henry and William Thomas of Auburn, Indiana in 1915 and sold to Charlie Hanes in 1916, who with his wife, Louise Hanes, developed and operated it until his death in 1941.

Charlie Hanes created facilities to accommodate one hundred Hotel Guests, by enlarging a recreational hall into a Hotel Annex. Recreations such as: Bathing, Miniature Golf, Tennis, Shuffle-board, and boats, were provided for guests who came year after year from surrounding states to spend their vacations at the Island.

Since 1941 the Island Park Hotel has had a number of owners. At the present time it is known as "Paradise Inn" and is owned by a Mr. Hart of Fort Wayne, Ind.

The Hamilton House is located in the town of Hamilton, on the Mill-Pond. It is operated by Robert Weaver, who offers, along with rooms, specialties and chicken and steak dinners.

### Ball's Lake

Ball's Lake is one and one-half miles southwest of Hamilton in section 32. The land on the west side of the lake was first obtained by Shelah Frink of Madison County, New York. The property was entered at the United States Land Office at Ft. Wayne, Indiana on May 16, 1836. A part of this land is now owned by Avery Lemmon Sr.

The lake is oblong in shape, covering seventy-eight acres of land. It has a marl bottom. The north and south shores are bordered by steep hills and covered by beautiful woods. The west



and east shores are bound by pasture and farm lands.

The lake is noted for its great depth. It is recorded that one hundred and one feet is its greatest depth. Many stories have been told about the great depth of this lake and how many have tried to reach the bottom. One interesting story is that George Baxter dove off a boat with a large rock in his hands. He said that he went so deep the water was so cold that he thought that he could not let go of the rock. Still he recounts that he did not reach the bottom.

The only beach and a very small one, is on the northeast and east side of the lake. The rest of the shore-line has a very sharp drop off a few feet from shore.

In 1890, the Hiram Sweet ditch was dug to drain a large area of swamp land east of Ball's Lake. This drainage project lowered the lake approximately four feet, thus making a drastic change in the shore-line. This accounts for the sudden drop off into very deep water around almost all of the lake.

The lake shore-line has never been improved. There is only one cottage on the lake. In June 1954 the State purchased a right-of-way from Avery Lemmon, Sr., and in the near future expects to construct a road from the main highway to the lake.

Mrs. Buck, the grandmother of Charles Crown, related to her grandson a very interesting story of how thousands of Buffalo came to the lake for water. As they came down the steep bank bordering the northwest side of the lake, they wore great paths in the bank. Since they never returned by the same path, many such paths were made. These Buffalo paths are still very distinct and interesting to see.

Deer also came to drink and often mired in the quicksands which enabled the early settlers to kill them easily and thus provide meat.

The lake lies near the Old Defiance Trail and there was spring water nearby. Mrs. John Fee, my great Grandmother, who homesteaded in the vicinity, said it was a common sight to see the camp-fires of the home seekers and the Covered Wagons clustered thickly around the shores of the lake at night.

Mrs Fee also recounted that the lake was a favorite hunting place for the Indians who came down from the general direction of what is now Walnut Street. Since there was an Indian Ceme-

tery west of her home, she often witnessed their ceremonial dances when they came in the night and danced with the spirits of their departed loved ones. The Indians held in great respect the graves of their fathers, and to them the spirits of the dead were very real. It was their custom to build great bonfires and dance around them and throw the choice meat of the buffalo and the pigeon into the fires to show the spirits they were not forgotten.

### Johnson's Lake

Johnson's Lake, three and one-half miles north of Hamilton in section 16, covers 35 acres and has an average depth of 15' to a maximum of 39'. Jack's or Mud Springs Lake, two and one-half miles northwest of Hamilton in section 30, has 5 acres of water and is 6' to 15' in depth and has a muck bottom.

Round Lake, three miles north of Hamilton, in section 16, has an area of 12 acres, with a depth varying from 30 to 75 feet. It has a muck bottom. Nearly 1000 acres of the surface of Otsego Township is covered with water by the lakes within its borders.

### Lake James

Nestled among picturesque, forest covered hills, supreme in natural beauty, and unequaled in the charm of its pure green waters, Lake James is the largest lake in Steuben County and the third largest in the State. Many have regarded it as the most beautiful in the State by reason of its irregular lobes and arms winding among the hills of its rugged environment. The only other region that compares to it in scenic beauty, is the Tippecanoe-Barbee country of Kosciusko County, but the topography surrounding that group lacks the picturesqueness of the morainic regions of Steuben County. Some lake writers have described it as the Alps of Indiana, because it resembles the famous Alps in miniature.

The lake lies in sections 22, 27, 28, 33, and 34, in Pleasant Township. It is located five miles north of Angola on the west side of U.S. 27. The length of the lake bed from the farthest point south, to the farthest point north, including Snow Lake, is approximately four miles, but a sharp curving eastward of the lower basin of Snow Lake increases the length. The total coastline, with its numerous arms, bends, and coves, has been estimated as thirty-two miles. It is extremely variable in width, ranging anywhere from a quarter of a

mile or less to a mile, its expansions and contractions, separating it into four distinct basins, joined by narrows that in the Snow Lake connection, become a mere strait.

The southern basin known as the "Lower Lake," is one and one-quarter miles in length from north to south and three-quarters of a mile in width, with a very irregular shoreline, running back to several prominent points and embankments, such as Sowles', Ball's and other bays. In this basin is a small island at the south end, called Kemery Island. It is the eastward trend of this basin that gives Pokagon Park its southern shoreline, and affords the exceptional site for Potawatomi Inn on top of a grassy knoll overlooking the lake's broadest expanse. It also enables the parkland to have two and a third miles of shoreline. The shores are abrupt, and upon the east side rise to a height of one or two hundred feet. The best sweeping view of the lake is from Bledsoe's Beach, which for many years was known as Weldon's Landing, at the mouth of Jimmerson Creek.

The facts indicate that the bottom of the lake is very uneven, and its depth varies from 30 to 65 feet. The area of shallow water along the shore is quite irregular in places and sometimes very narrow, while from others it projects out in long broad points several hundred feet from shore, making the average width of shallow water over these stretches probably 200 feet. The shores on the south side rise abruptly 30 feet or more and are covered with oak and hickory. Those on the east and west, as noted before, rise to more lofty heights.

The next basin north of the first basin is known as Middle Lake or the second basin. It is really the foot of the entire lake, as the outlet, Crooked Creek, flows from it into Jimmerson Lake, about midway of the second basin. As viewed from here the eastern shore, a half mile away, rises in a long bold, rolling bluff, heavily wooded, which stretches northward towards Snow Lake. South-eastward, the lower basin opens a wide vista that sweeps inland to a far off shoreline. This basin is separated from the preceding or lower basin by a narrow strait between Lone Tree Point and Spring Point in the center of which was formerly an island, now a shoal. The middle basin is a mile in length and the greatest depth is eighty feet. Two opposing capes, each covered with groves of trees, stand like wings on each side of the narrow strait, with only two feet of water over the bar, which

opens into the third basin, which resembles the second basin in shape, size and depth.

Eagle Island, a high peak rising abruptly from the water, is a conspicuous land mark on the north shore. A few rods from its west side, the deepest sounding of the lake was made, eighty-seven feet. The belt of shallow water in this upper lake, particularly along the east side, is broader, ranging from one hundred to 300 feet in width. The east shore like that of the two basins to the south, is densely wooded, but the hills rise only to about thirty feet.

"From the upper lake, an unbroken expanse of water formerly extended a mile and one-half to the northeast. Now the encroachment of vegetation has nearly cut this off to form a separate lake, known as Snow Lake. This also is nearly divided into two separate Basins. A channel, only eight feet wide and difficult to find, runs through the marsh to the east of Eagle Island, and admits passage of boats from the upper to the south basin of Snow Lake, the long axis of which extends northeast and southwest and is continuous with the valley of Otter and Marsh Lakes. This basin is three-quarters of a mile long and one-sixth of a mile wide, and is separated from the much larger northern basin, by a long marshy point, from the northeast and by Deer Island. A bar to the east of that island is covered with a growth of bull-rushes. Deer Island rises 40 feet above the water, contains an area of about three acres, and is heavily wooded with oak and other timber, forming one of the prettiest spots about a lake that is above average in picturesque beauty. Deer Island and Eagle Island are connected with the main land by extensive marshy meadows. Along the south side of the basin, the shallow water area is from ten to twenty rods in width. At the inlet from Otter Lake the valley is broad, it being evident that at one time the lower part of Snow Lake was extended so as to include upper and lower Otter Lakes, just around the hills; and Marsh Lake, the latter about two miles to the eastward."

"The waterway at present connecting the north and south basins of Snow Lake, is a channel about 10 rods wide. The north basin is very nearly a mile in length from north to south and not quite one mile in average width. A peninsula-like point of land juts out into the water from the north shore, forming two bays; the eastern one being much wider and receiving the outlet of George and



Mud Lakes. A small Island covered with cat-tails and wire-grass rises three feet above the water about 40 rods south of the extremity of the peninsula. The east shore of the lake is wooded, but the hills slope back gradually and rise to 20 and 30 feet above the water. The greater part of the south shore is bordered with marsh, varying in width from 10 to 30 rods, and covered with wire-grass and other vegetation. Back of the marsh are steep, densely wooded hills, rising 150 feet or more above the level of the lake."

"The waters of the lower and middle basins are quite free from vegetation. In the northern corner of the southern basin of Snow Lake, the white water lily and spatterdock are abundant. In fact, Snow Lake contains as much aquatic vegetation within its bounds as do all the other basins of James combined." (This above from Blatchley's Report 1900.)

There are approximately fifteen hundred cottages and homes in the surrounding areas of Lake James and Snow Lake. These cottage developments contain many beautiful homes. "The Lake properties of Jamestown township and Pleasant Township carry 28.6 percent of the total assessed valuation of the real property taxes of the two townships." (Above quotation from Denzil Doggett)

Some of the cottage developments on Lake James are named: Eli's Point, Hickory Point, Lake James Park, Weldon's Landing, (now Bledsoe's Beach) Lake James Beach, Windemere Beach, Grand View, Red Sand Beach, Fountain Park, Glen Eden, Gleneyre Beach, Lone Tree Point, Pokagon State Park, Potawatomi Inn.

"Not the least attraction of Lake James and its connections, is the seclusion it offers in its out-of-the-way places and nooks. The body of it may, at the height of the summer season, be a highway for sputtering motor boats, but the 32 miles of shoreline form into many quiet harbors where the lover of privacy may find refuge.

"There are miles of boating to be enjoyed on this chain of lakes and a great variety of picturesque scenery to make it a rewarding experience in the richness of living. Or, if one desires to gratify the exploring instinct, he may find narrow, winding paths that lead to discoveries. From the second basin at Bledsoe's Beach, you may enter Jimmerson Creek, which goes winding through fields and lagoons, ending at the last in a long mill-pond that

curves gracefully between slopes of a gentle valley. After two or more miles of pleasant boating on these sheltered waters, nosing this way and that, one comes to the head of the navigation of the hamlet of Nevada Mills, a handful of houses that seem so remote from the hurly-burly of the world, so quiet and undisturbed, that the lover of such spots will wish to linger here for an hour or so." (Quotation, George S. Cottman of the Department of Conservation.)

"The tangible benefit accruing to the community and the county is principally fishing. The tourists or summer cottage trade and State Park Hotel trade also brings much money into the community. In addition, rental cottages and those owned and occupied by persons from adjoining states, bring many dollars to the locality.

"The value of Lake James for recreation is emphasized by a series of bathing beaches that have been prepared for water sports. In addition, many boat liveries catering to sportsmen and speed enthusiasts are busy throughout the summer season.

"The area of Lake James is 1,034 acres, the volume, 13,000,000 gallons; the depth as determined by the Indiana Lake Guide varies from marginal shallows to eighty-six feet. The outlet which controls the level of Lake James as well as Jimmerson Lake, is located at Nevada Mills, which is the outlet of Jimmerson into Crooked Creek. At the present time, this controlled outlet operates with several slide gates on the south end of the dam flowing into a culvert or pipe which discharges it through the dam into the stream. This substantial and modern dam was built by the Division of Fish and Game of the Department of Conservation. The surface level above sea-level is 969.3." (Denzil Doggett, Department of Conservation.)

Having been one of the first lakes of the county to be developed due to its size and proximity to roads and rail lines, Lake James holds fond memories for many Steuben County residents who have enjoyed its natural beauty for many years, as have also the thousands of vacationers and cottage owners from out of State and surrounding area. Two and three generations of children and their children cherish memories of happy times and vacations along its banks and its sloping hills, enjoying its blue green waters, for boating, fishing and bathing. The recreational features of the State Park and Bledsoe's beach are widely known. Residents of Angola, (the County Seat) have long shown

pride and appreciation for their lovely Lake James and have been keenly interested in its development as a recreational region.

#### **Loon Lake**

Loon Lake is located four and one-half miles northeast of Angola in section 20-21. The depth varies from 10 feet to 23 feet at its deepest point. The distance around the lake is about three miles and its area is 141 acres. The bottom is marl. It is also overlaid with muck and the shores are very mucky. The lake is fed by springs. It has an outlet that goes into Crooked Creek. There are four cottages on the lake. There is good fishing during the summer months.

#### **Cheesboro Lake**

Cheesboro Lake, four miles southeast of Angola, is located in section 19, on the border line of Pleasant and Jackson Townships. It has an area of 27 acres and its depth varies from 10 feet to 16 feet. The bottom is sandy.

#### **Buck Lake**

Buck Lake is two and one-half miles west of Angola and a little north of Route U.S. 20. It is in section 18-28 and has an area of 17 acres. The average depth is 15 feet and the maximum 58 feet. The bottom of the lake is marl.

This lake is widely known for its recreational park which was promoted by Harry and Eleanor Smythe of Chicago, Illinois, in 1948. The land around the lake is rolling and the park consists of eighty acres.

Buck Lake Ranch, by which name the park is known, offers a number of attractions. There are two hundred picnic tables, kiddieland rides, merry-go-round, ferris-wheel, animal zoo, boating and fishing. It also has three two-hour shows every Sunday, Round and Square Dancing afternoon and evening.

Center Lake, Middle Center Lake, and Little Center Lake, are located one mile from Angola. The shores of these lakes are not suitable for development and there is considerable quicksand around them. The bottoms are muck and their average depth is 10' to 15' and the maximum depths are 36', 32', and 20' respectively.

#### **Fox Lake**

Fox Lake lies a mile or less southwest of Angola in sections 27, 33, and 34, Pleasant Town-

ship. The lake is three-quarters of a mile long and half a mile wide, with an area of about "142 acres." A long, low point from the north, near the west, shuts off a small bay.

The deep water of the lake has a very uniform depth of more than "40 feet" with a maximum of "60 feet." The water is clear and cold, with clean shores and no marsh, except at a point near the west end. A long point of shallow water extends from the northeast shore of the lake. Along the part of the shore in sections 28 and 33 the shallow water is narrow. Around the rest of the lake it is broad and more variable, there being several projecting submerged points on the south side. The shores are high and abrupt all around this lake except near the outlet, which flows southwesterly into Pigeon Creek. The Indiana Lake Guide lists the lake as having a gravel bottom. (The above description is taken from the State Geologists report 1900, and is the writing of W. S. Blatchley.)

There are many cottages on this lake and a part of the lake is a colony of Colored People.

#### **Silver Lake**

Although there are several lakes in Indiana and Michigan that have been named SILVER LAKE, this article strictly pertains to the Silver Lake in North-Eastern Indiana, and located about three and one-half miles west of Angola, Indiana.

This lake covers an area of about three-hundred and seventy-five acres, has two inlets, and one outlet, and is also fed by springs and artesian wells, the water is crystal clear and cool. The lake bottom is primarily marl, with considerable sandy and gravel shores, bars, and slightly submerged islands. Practically anywhere around the shoreline, artesian wells can be had, which when a two inch casing has been driven, will flow a full two inch stream of water to one hundred feet, according to the location, and a large number of these artesian wells now in operation here, are greatly appreciated. The depth of this lake varies up to sixty-five feet in places.

Silver Lake differs in many respects from many of the Northern Indiana lakes, in that it is not completely encircled by cottages, and about two-thirds of the shore line is practically in its original state. No cottages have been built on the South and West shores and it is possible that many nice shaded lots could be arranged for, especially on the South Side. There are possibly sixty or more



cottages on the East and North shores today, and there, too, some nice lots are still available.

One of the larger and better equipped tourist's courts in Northern Indiana, with facilities and accommodations for parties wishing to spend a vacation, as well as those who stop over night, is located directly on the Northwest shore of the lake, and along U.S. Highway No. 20. This court has been known for years as "SILVER LAKE COURT," and was built and operated for many years by Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wells, who later sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Strite, who are now the operators. The court consists of twenty modern cabins and cottages, surrounded by shade trees and spacious lawn. Other facilities include a store and gas station, large sandy and attractive bathing beach, rental boats and facilities for fishing, shuffleboard, tennis, croquet and horseshoe courts. All cabins and cottages are fully equipped, having showers and toilets, and practically all have screened porches facing the lake. The larger cottages are equipped with kitchenettes, have gas for cooking, electric refrigerators; and dishes, utensils, and linens are supplied.

Immediately adjoining Silver Lake Court to the West, and overlooking the lake, Mr. Strite has built a new and modern Trailer Court, with individual electric, sewer and water connections, and considerable space is allotted to each trailer, and it is understood a modern utility building will be constructed soon.

Silver Lake is well stocked with fish, and more stock is added each year by the State Conservation Department. Bass, pike, bluegills, perch, crappie and sunfish are some of the species found here, and people with little experience at fishing often bring in nice catches. Outboard motors are permitted, but no speed boats.

About centrally located on the North shore, and along U.S. Highway No. 20, is a nice place, owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. William Sanders. Mr. Sanders builds and rents boats, and has operated an Inn there for many years. This Inn was formerly the Greyhound bus terminal during the Chicago World's Fair in 1933, and for several years thereafter.

Just east of here, and along U.S. Highway No. 20, is a nice Tourist Court known as "The Green Apple Court." Some of these cabins were built and operated for a number of years by Mr. and Mrs. John Abbott, and later sold to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Babcock, who are now the operators. Mr.

Babcock has modernized the court, and has added new units recently and also has rental boats. This court is about two and one-half miles west of Angola, and along highway No. 20.

On the North-East and East shores of the lake are several nice cottages, some privately owned, but many are for rent, and available for vacationing, and some of these operators rent boats and fishing equipment.

Silver Lake is surrounded by farm land, the soil is generally good, being well adapted to the raising of cereals and stock. Before the lands around Silver Lake, which is in Pleasant Township, sections (29, 30, 31 and 32), were settled, and for some time after, the Native Americans were very numerous, this part being occupied by the "Pottawatomies" as a hunting-ground. Substantiating evidence to this is the fact that great numbers of flint arrow heads, and stone hatchets have been found here, and many are found today when breaking new ground. The Indian Chief's name was "Baw Besse," and it is said that Silver Lake acquired its name from the Indians referring to its clear water as Silver Water, and today one will note the clear silver color of the lake when viewed from the surrounding hills. The Indians were removed to a reservation in the Far-West, in the year of 1840. Early settlers to the land adjacent to the lake included Mr. George W. McConnell, Mr. D. Castell, Mr. A. D. Crain, and Mr. F. Ward, and a few of their descendants are living nearby today. Thousands of people who spend their vacations each year at, and around Silver Lake, after returning to their homes, look forward with great anticipation to the day they can return.

### Lake George

Its unique location makes Lake George one of the most interesting lakes in Indiana. Approximately three hundred and twenty-four of its acres lie in the state of Indiana with an additional one hundred and seventy-eight acres in Michigan. Lake George is located six miles north of Angola, Indiana, in Jamestown Township in Steuben County on Road 27. It is in Sections 14 and 15 of Township 38 north, Range 13 East.

Only five lakes in Steuben County exceed the maximum depth of the eighty-two feet of this lake. However, the average depth of Lake George is twenty-five feet. Its surface elevation is 988.62 feet above sea level; its volume has been officially established by the State of Indiana as 3,630,000,000

gallons. The outline of this lake closely resembles a squirrel. Its shore line exceeds five miles in length. The bottom of this lake is marl.

The first settlement on Lake George was established in 1836. A dam was built on Crooked Creek, which is the outlet of this lake, and in the same year a water-powered grist mill was erected. It seems impossible now to determine the name of the first owner of this mill. Some say that it was built by John Knott and others remember the man's name as Gilbert. It is certain that there were many changes in ownership. Some time between 1862 and 1868 this early mill was torn down and a new mill built on the very same site and possibly by members of the very same family. Also at this time, a water powered saw mill was constructed. Milling continued here until 1926 or 1927. In 1928 this picturesque old landmark was torn down, and a modern lake control structure was soon built.

This early settlement was first called Eagleville. In 1842 the residents decided to change the name to Jamestown, by which name this small village is still known. However, because another town in Indiana had been named Jamestown, this name could not be used officially when a post office was established. Crooked Creek was chosen as the name for the post office, but this name was seldom used except for mail.

The establishment of a post office was made possible by the starting at about this same time, of a stage coach line which went from Fremont to Jamestown in Indiana and on through Kinderhook to Coldwater in Michigan. This is a distance of twenty miles and the round trip required an entire day. Of course, passengers were hauled along with the mail. In bad weather it was necessary to keep a fresh team at Coldwater, Michigan, in order to make the return trip.

The first cottage ever built on Lake George was erected by a group of business men from Fremont in 1885 on the east side of the lake on what is now called Spring Bank. This Spring Bank was the first plat to be laid out along this lake. This was done in 1888 or 1889 by the owners of the land, Joseph and Jane Wilder. Now there are ten plats around this lake.

Starting with Spring Bank and proceeding south and west along the lake are the following: Lake George Beach, Forest Park Addition. Forest Park Brown's Point, and Kopoknee Beach. Nipogon Beach is the first plat in Michigan on the western

side of the lake. The Kettle, Kope Kon Pointe, and Spring Bank are the other Michigan plats.

About 1900 a hotel was erected on the east side of Lake George at the Spring Bank plat in Indiana. This is the only hotel that has ever been built at this lake, and it has been operated continuously ever since as a hotel. Nobody seems to remember the exact name, but the hotel was built and first operated by a woman. Within a few years she sold this hotel to a man named Bailey. At the present time Mrs. Phillip Morris owns and operates the Lake George Hotel.

The second area of the lake to be developed was Forest Park starting about 1900. From that time on the development of Lake George has been steady and rapid. At one time there was a small zoo on the south side. In 1952 an accurate survey showed that there were 1,134 cottages around Lake George. New cottages are being built rapidly at this pleasant and popular resort area. Several restaurants and groceries, and service stations add to the convenience of vacationers. There are excellent camping facilities at several places around the lake.

One of the reasons that Lake George has become such a popular recreation spot is the variety and abundance of fish life. Rock bass, large mouth bass, small mouth bass, pike, blue gills, perch, crappies, bull heads, and some types of predatory fish can be found here.

Many lovely beaches add further to the attractiveness of Lake George. The lake is spring fed, which makes the water crystal pure. Boating and other water sports are popular. In order to insure the safety of those enjoying these forms of recreation, this lake is now patrolled.

There is an active Lake George Cottagers' Association organized to promote the welfare of this area. Its purpose can be seen from its three fold policy; (1) Protect all property and natural assets of Lake George and its surroundings; (2) Respect the rights of others as one would have others respect his; (3) Play fair; obey the laws and regulations that there may be better fishing for everyone. Just recently a Conservation Club has been organized at this lake.

With its ideal location, its natural scenic beauty of both lake and woods, and the progressive spirit of its people, Lake George will undoubtedly continue to be one of Michigan's most popular recreation areas.

From April, 1951, Outdoor Indiana, there is an



article on Mills and Lakes, written by Denzil Doggett. It is as follows:

In 1836-37, John Knott built a dam at the outlet of Lake George, into Crooked Lake, raising the level of the lake four feet. A saw mill and grist mill was erected there. After many changes of ownership, and the erection of a modern flouring mill in 1862, milling was finally abandoned about 1926 or 1927. During its Hey-day, it was operated for many years by Lambert Persing, helped successively by his six sons as they became old enough to learn the trade. About 1927, the Lake George Cottagers Association acquired the property of a deed dated June 15th, 1928, from Bert and Nellie Sprague. The mill was torn down and a modern lake control structure built soon afterward.

### Lake Gage

Charles Redway Dryer, in his "Studies in Indiana Geography" says that Lake Gage is one of the finest specimens of a kettle-hole lake; being about one mile by three-quarters in diameter, and surrounded by high sand bluffs. The slope of the bottom is quite uniform from every side, and a large area in the center is over fifty feet in depth, with a maximum of seventy feet.

Being so nearly round, one can see practically the entire lake from any given point; which fact adds greatly to the unusual beauty of the lake. The beauty is further enhanced by the remarkable colors in the water, the cause of which is not known; unless it is due to the marl bottom. These colors are most noticeable before a storm, when dark blues, greens and varying shades of purple appear on the surface of the water.

The shape of the lake has also had an effect on the community life of the resort. Since most of the cottages are in view of each other the occupants of the cottages are fairly well known to each other, and what affects one section of the lake affects all.

However, there are more-or-less distinct divisions of the lake, and they have been developed separately—and by different individuals. The west side of the lake is circled by a high cliff with one flat point extending out into the lake. This property was acquired in the early 1900s by Edson Wilder and Milton Rose, who had a vision for its development. It was a beautiful location, with its far view across the lake, deep woods extending west to the small lake, known as Lime, and a blossoming orchard to the north.

There were two small cottages on the point, doubtless the first cottages to be built on the lake. These they tore down, and erected in their place a hotel—which they called "Shady Nook." In spite of the fact that the hotel could only be reached by trains into Bronson or Angola, it attracted guests from a wide area. The Governor of the state chose it as his vacation spot.

The owners worked long and hard. They built the road leading off from the Orland Road. They met the trains in Bronson and Angola with a horse drawn carriage. When the Valley Line Railroad put in a station on the north side of the lake they acquired a covered launch, which brought passengers across the lake to the hotel. The popularity of the hotel grew as a result.

The grounds also became a favorite picnic spot. Hay rack loads of young people came for Sunday School and School picnics. But due to the failing health of the owners the property was sold to Frank Salisbury of Orland. He continued the sale of lots, but leased the hotel to D. W. Strauss and his daughter Lucile and son Carl in the year 1921. They ran the hotel and grocery store, which had been added, until 1925, when they built their own grocery store back on the hill. In the meantime the Shady Nook grounds had been sold to Orville Kuhlman of Auburn, Indiana. He constructed a high slide, on which the adventurous tobogganed from the top of the hill into the water far below. This was a popular sport with the young people for a number of years, until deterioration made it unsafe for use, and it was torn down. The motor launch was removed from the lake. After the discontinuance of the Valley Line Railroad it had been used as a pleasure craft, a fee being charged for a ride around the lake.

After changing operators several times the old hotel was converted into cottages. Orville Kuhlman still owns such portions of the Shady Nook property as have not been sold for building purposes. In 1953 he platted the woods and began selling lots in what had been the old picnic grounds. Building had already begun on the shore of Lime Lake. There are now seven cottages on the east shore of this small lake, and four on the west shore, which is owned by Guy Hunter.

Lucile Strauss is now the sole owner of the Strauss grocery store, her father and brother having passed away. Mrs. C. H. Roth has four popular rental cottages in the Shady Nook section and has shown great interest in the development and

welfare of the lake resort. The oldest cottages on the west side of the lake are the two cottages known as "Dew Drop Inn" and "Seldom In," which are near the old hotel site. But the oldest cottage now standing on the lake was built by Frank Parker seventy-five years ago. It has recently been remodeled, and is in a fine state of preservation. It stands down on the lake shore in front of the farm house now owned by Verba Brown, widow of the late Chester Brown.

The Brown farm has not been platted for lake lots; so no cottages appear until one reaches what is known as "Panama." This was named by Lloyd Waterhouse, who laid out this section about 1908. It gives the appearance of a small village, since he left a street between every four cottages. The first cottage was erected here by John Helmkamp, of Fort Wayne. This is cottage 143. The following year the Clemens cottage, No. 144, was built. It is still occupied by Mrs. Clara Clemens, one of the few cottages which are now occupied by the original builders.

In 1914 Theodore Geller and his daughter Louise built the large frame building, which served as living quarters, bakery, grocery store and green house. The bakery and store were closed out in the late 20s, but Louise Geller, who survived her father by many years, continued to operate the greenhouse until her death—about 1942. She had a flourishing business in flower and garden plants, attracting customers from neighboring towns and the surrounding country side. It was on the hill above the Geller store that the Valley Line had a small station for Lake Gage passengers. A long pier was built out into the lake to accommodate the hotel launch.

In the early twenties Art Kelso, of Orland, built a dance hall in Panama, with both an inside and an outside dance floor. This provided popular entertainment for a number of years. Then it was leased by Bledsoe, of Lake James. In 1937 the property was acquired by Mrs. L. F. Howey, who, over the years, has built five attractive rental cottages and made apartments of the old dance hall.

The large, white, three-storied house across the road from the grocery store owned by Verner Householder, was the pretentious home of Lloyd Waterhouse, who developed the Panama section. This store, known as "The Lake Gage Trading Post," was first owned by John Otstott. The original structure of this store was built by Lloyd

Waterhouse to be used as a rental cottage. It was the first rental cottage on the lake and the second oldest cottage. It was built around 1890. As a grocery store it has been operated almost continuously for over thirty years, though it has changed hands many times.

Continuing around the lake from the store, one crosses a very picturesque creek flowing out from the woods, which was part of the land taken from the government by Justus Butler in 1836. His saw mill stood in these woods and the stream still flows through the old mill race. It is usually spoken of as the "inlet," since it flows in from Crooked Lake.

The cottage on the south bank of this creek was built many years ago by Dr. John Humfreys, who was long a well known figure in Steuben County. The original part of the house he built without the aid of a carpenter.

The oldest cottage on the east side of Lake Gage was built about 1908, by John Mitchell, a B. and O. engineer from Garrett. Since he had a sail boat named "The Clipper" for the Garrett newspaper, he called his cottage "Clipper Landing," by which name the cottage is still known. It is now owned by M. R. Voorhees of Garrett.

The last cottage on the east side of the lake was the two-storied cottage known as "Idle Wild." It was built by Joseph Butler, son of Justus Butler, for a rental cottage, at quite an early date. It has been remodelled and is now the home of his son William Justus (Billie).

On up the hill from this cottage is a long low building. It is now used as the Butler dairy barn, but was once the Butler grocery store. It was the first store on Lake Gage.

The first plat on Lake Gage was made by Joseph Butler in 1905. This was on the south shore and was known as "The Oak Dale Plat." The first cottage built in this section was built by Milton Ray, Pete Behler and Dave Smith, of Garrett, Indiana, who called it "The Three Friends." It is now owned by J. L. Harrigar.

In 1924 William Butler laid out the "South Side Plat." This extends on either side of "The Oakdale Plat." Many of the old cottages in Oakdale have been beautifully remodelled. The dwellers on Lake Gage are justly proud of the well-kept and attractive appearance of the resort's many cottages. Each year adds to the number of families who are now making the lake their year-around home.



In 1936 a channel was dug between Lake Gage and Lime Lake, connecting the two lakes and thereby joining their interests.

On June 9, 1946, the "Lake Gage Cottagers Association" was formed, which now includes Lime Lake. Chas. Halter, an attorney from Fort Wayne, was elected the first President, and Carl Strauss the first Secretary. In 1952 the group was incorporated as "Lake Gage and Lime Lake Association, Inc.", and has a steadily growing membership. The newly elected President is Frank Case, of Toledo, Ohio, with John C. Kingsbury re-elected as Secretary.

The first project undertaken by the Association was the numbering of cottages—there are now 225. In 1947 the first Directory was published, and in 1949 garbage collection was inaugurated. At an early date a hook-up was made with the Orland Fire Department.

It was through the efforts of the Association that the road was extended around the lake in 1951. This road, encircling the lake, makes a beautiful drive, and has made possible a new section opened up by Ray Kimball. This lies a short distance across the Millgrove township line, leading into the Shady Nook area. New buildings seem to be springing up there almost overnight.

And so they come to Lake Gage. From far and near they come, and we opine that those who have recently come will love it, as it has always been loved by those who have dwelt on its shores. Down from the Indians, who paddled their canoes on its waters, and grieved so bitterly at being removed from its shores, to the present dwellers on Lake Gage, all have felt something of the magic of this beautiful lake.

### **Magic Lake**

Cradled in verdant hills it lies,  
Changing colors with the changing skies,  
Lavenders and greens when a storm comes on,  
Misty rose at break of dawn.

A path of gold at close of day,  
When sunny hours fade away;  
A white sail spread on a sea of blue,  
Fishing boats idling and swift boats too.

A lake where magic seems to dwell  
To those who long have known it well,  
Where a brooding presence hovers near  
To bless the friends who hold it dear.

### **Hog Lake**

"Hog Lake lies two miles west of the village of Jamestown and occupies part of section 17, Jamestown Township. Its northern border is about fifty rods south of the Michigan line. The water area of the lake was lowered about eight feet in 1896, by a ditch out of it northward into Walters Lake, so that its present area is eighty acres.

"The immediate shores of the lake, except on the east, are everywhere low and marshy. On the south and west, the marshes gradually rise into higher, cultivated land. The eastern shore is for the most part composed of a gravelly ridge which, a few rods back from the water's edge, rises to a height of 15 or more feet. On the north a level marsh, 50 rods wide, separates Hog Lake from Walters Lake, the latter lying partly in Michigan. On the northwest is an extensive tamarack swamp. An island of five or six acres, thickly covered with tamarack, birch and alder, lies a little south of the center of the lake. Since the lake was drained, the channel west of the island has become choked with vegetation, and a continuous marsh now exists between the island and the mainland. A long marshy point puts out from the south shore to the southeast, thus dividing the water existing in the lake into three lobes." (Blatchley Report, 1900.)

The greatest depth of the water is 31 feet and the average is 20 feet. The area is 88 acres. The bottom of the lake is muck.

There are no cottage developments around the lake. There is fishing, and boats are provided by neighboring farmers.

### **Little Otter and Big Otter Lakes**

Nestling at the northern foot-hills of Hell's Point are Little Otter and Big Otter Lakes.

Lying side by side, these lakes are separated only by a very narrow strip of land and are connected by a narrow channel of water—not exceeding 30 feet in length. Little Otter lake lies five miles north of Angola and borders on Highway U.S. 27 North. Directly to the northwest is Big Otter Lake—both lakes occupying a part of sections 26 and 27 in Jamestown Township. Their combined acreage is 88 acres. The average depth is 30 feet and the maximum depth is 62 feet. The bottom of both lakes is marl and very muddy. The shoreline of the lakes is very similar; boggy and marshy on every side of both lakes excepting the

east shore of Little Otter and the west side of Big Otter—the marshy shore gradually rises into very high hills—with some woods. The east shore of Little Otter is boggy and marshy, the marsh extending farther east until it reaches Marsh Lake. A narrow navigable channel connects these two lakes.

The north shore of Little Otter is dotted with many fine homes and cottages—also a boat shop and Huser Upholstery Shop.

Big Otter has the same characteristics as its smaller sister lake—the marshy shores rising on the northeast and south to very high hills. The west shore is low, marshy, and a navigable channel winds through this marshland into Snow Lake.

Thus the several lakes which lie among the beautiful hills are connected and one can go by boat from Marsh Lake to Little Otter, to Big Otter, to Snow Lake, to Lake James, to Jimmerson—a distance of many miles.

Blue gills, large and small mouthed bass, perch, crappies, and pike are found in both Big and Little Otter Lakes.

### Clear Lake

In the northeast corner of the county lies a beautiful lake. It was given the name Clear Lake because the earliest surveyors noted the clearness of the waters and the absence of floating aquatic vegetation. It lies 6 miles west of Fremont in sections 19 and 20.

According to the Indiana Lake Guide, the water surface has an area of 765 acres, which is exactly the same as that given for Hamilton Lake in the southeast part of the county, making them equal in size and with only Lake Wawasee and Lake James being larger in the State. The depth varies from 30 feet to 104 feet in the center parts of the lake. The shores are sandy around the lake and the water in general is shallow, many sand bars reaching out in places two to three hundred feet, where the depth varies from a few inches to four and six feet. The beaches are sandy, and in the main, are free from rushes, so that only two or three places around the shore are not suitable for bathing.

From the shelf of shallow water the bottom drops off into deep water, where the depth varies from 30 feet to 104 feet in the center parts of the lake. The main basins are deep so that the vegetation does not reach the surface.

"Some writers have described the lake as having the shape of a clover leaf, with the parts resembling the three lobes, the main basin northward, and the east basin and the west basin, each almost as large, lying below. In the center of the conjunction of these basins, stands a high oak-covered island of two and one-half acres, at about the place a stem would be attached to the clover-leaf. The shores are rather regular in outline, excepting the western shore of the main basin. All the banks are high, save in places along the southern shore, where they are heavily wooded with oaks, maples, a few sycamores and elms, an occasional walnut and at one or two places, a few cedars. The island was given the name of Cedar Island for the reason that formerly it was covered with trees of this species.

"There are several springs around the lake. The principal source of water for the lake, however, is a streaminlet flowing several miles from the southeast and entering the lake at the southeast corner of East Bay. The outlet of the lake is at the northwestern corner of the main basin, into Round Lake, a body of water of "twenty-eight" acres lying only twenty or twenty-five feet beyond the shore of the northwestern side of the main basin. From here the water flows northward through a stream outlet into a broad marsh of the main basin, thence northward into the St. Joseph River.

"Now let us step into a boat and take an excursion around the lake, to become acquainted with the points of interest. Let us start here at Indian Point, this long high head of land that juts down into the lake from the eastern shore and helps divide the East Bay from the main basin. The shore is fringed with rushes, and the beach is shallow for about one hundred feet out from the shore.

"Extending north from Indian Point is Crystal Beach, with a shore of fine white sand. The cottages, so hidden among the trees that they cannot well be seen from the lake, are built closely together. A roadway runs back of the cottages following the shoreline contour, running from the grocery store at Hazenhurst Hotel, and turning eastward to meet the main road after it has reached almost to the "Point."

"From here on up to the Hazenhurst Hotel, the cottages are built closely together, and this portion of the shore has been named "Morton Beach." The hotel is at the north end of the beach. At the northwest corner of the lake is located the Lakeside Hotel. This hotel commands a view of not only



the main basin, but also of the small body of water nearby called Round Lake. Cottages extend all along the shore from Hazenhurst to Lakeside; the banks are steep. The highway was built on top of the bluff. Along part of the roadway, cottages have been built on both sides.

"Round Lake is fringed with spatterdock and water lily pads. The lake lies west of the northwest corner of the main basin of Clear Lake, with only a few feet of low bank separating the two. A roadway runs south over this narrow bank, making a highway for cottages on the western shore. The outlet of the main basin of Clear Lake is at the narrowest point of the strip of land separating the two; but the stream cannot be passed over in a boat except at high water. Boats have been placed on the lake, and many fishermen like to ply their skill by casting at the margins, their efforts often being rewarded with a large-mouthed bass. The outlet of Round Lake is opposite the inlet just mentioned, and flows into Mud Lake, a shallow, marshy lake lying a few hundred feet north of Round Lake.

"The high knoll south is Spring Point, named for the fact that a clear flowing spring is located at the tip of the point. Between Spring Point and Verene Point is a shallow bay, fringed with rushes and lily pads, in which bass are to be found nesting in the spring.

"Just south and under the cover of Spring Point is Pleasant Bay, shallow and sandy. The banks, however, are high and covered with oak and maple trees and have proved attractive to builders of summer homes.

"We come to Skunk Island, this high knoll, covered with small oak trees, with an area of a few square rods. During the latter part of the summer, this mound is not an island, for it connects with the mainland with a low, marshy, and rush covered sand-bar. It reaches out from the shore about one hundred feet.

"Below Skunk Island is a Long Bay, extending to the long point.

"Long Point is a low, mucky piece of ground reaching out into the lake southeastward toward Paradise Point on the south shore, and this in part divides West Bay from the main basin. The point is matted with marsh grass and wild rice near the tip, while farther back are elm and willow trees, with here and there a cluster of briars. Under cover of the point, in the West Bay, over a large

area near the shore, is a profuse cluster of rushes, cat-tails and lily pads.

"The whole north shore of the West Bay is shallow and sandy. At the western end of the bay however, the water is deeper, and the shore is fringed for a few feet with spatterdock. Fishing for bass is good from here on down to the cottages on the southern shore of the bay. These cottages are mid-way of the southern shore and are the beginning of the row of lots that have been platted.

"These cottages continue to Paradise Point, which reaches up into the lake northward, somewhat lance-like in shape. The point is well covered with trees. The whole southern shore of West bay, and most of the north shore, is high and well wooded.

"About three hundred feet northeast stands Cedar Island, a high mound with an area of perhaps two and one half acres composed of gravel banks and covered mostly with second growth oak trees. A few cedar trees are found there now, where formerly there were many, from which fact the island received its name. The bottom from Paradise Point to Cedar Island is shallow gravel, so that one can wade from one to the other.

"Between the east shore of Paradise Point and the south bank of the lake is a deep pocket known as Esler Bay, which is fringed a few feet with lily pads, and in this place the bass are to be found.

"From Esler Bay eastward along the south shore, the line is comparatively regular; the bottom is gravel, and, for the most part, free of vegetation. About midway along the strip is a flowing spring of clear, cold water, and to the portion of the shore near the spring, the name Spring Bay has been applied.

"Next is Whirlpool Bay. It was impossible however, to see any evidence of a whirlpool any place in the bay, or any sort of boiling water. Whirlpool Bay ends at Buck Point, on the other side of which is Higham Bay, a small pocket, with a low bank, just between the tip of the point and the first cottage.

"From Buck Point up to the inlet stream near McHanley Landing, extend summer homes along the south bank of east Basin, known as Little Rock Settlement. A road runs back of the cottages, meeting the main road that comes down from the north on the east side of the lake, and for a short distance follows the eastern high bank near the water's edge. At the northeast corner of the bay is Norton's Landing. From here to Indian Point the

shore is shallow and sandy and more or less covered with rushes. Just under cover of the point is a small pocket or bay known as Indian Bay, which is fringed with lily pads." (Nearly all the above writing on Clear Lake was taken from the Biennial Report of George William Miles, Commissioner of Fish and Game in 1913 and 1914, assisted by Preston Miles.)

"Both wall-eyed pike and bass have been planted in the lake. Generally the fishing is good.

"There are many small row-boats on the lake. A majority of the cottage owners own boating craft. There is now a good skiing Club at Clear Lake. This sport along with speed-boats, canoeing and sailing are favorite pastimes. Each year programs are arranged and prizes are given for speed-boat races, skiing contests, and for the best swimmers, sailors, skiers, casters and canoeists, etc. There are some fine boat services on the lake.

"There are one hundred permanent homes in the Clear Lake Corporation and over four hundred seasonal dwellings. Many of these are quite beautiful. It has been estimated that fifteen hundred people out of the State and 3700 from in the State vacation at Clear Lake yearly." (By Denzil Doggett.)

Lake Summary: Area of Clear Lake is 765 acres.

Homes and cottages: over five hundred.

Norton's Riding Academy.

Skating Rink

Round Lake: 28 acres.

Lots around lakes: 1,117.

### Long Lake

Long Lake is located in the extreme northeast corner of Indiana, with about half of the lake in Michigan. There are around one hundred acres of water surface in the lake, and it is about 15 feet in average depth, with a maximum depth of 50 feet.

Long Lake has a muck bottom, and there is an abundance of food for fish.

At one time it was surrounded by farms, but at the present time it has been platted to lake lots on the south side, with about 30 cottages, and most of them in Michigan. The east shore is owned by Clifton Hoolihan and he is building some cottages there. Mr. C. B. Bryant, at one time, had cottages on the north shore, but has sold to different people. Now he has his home on the Michigan side, and one cottage in Indiana. He also owns 19 acres on the north shore.

On the west side of the lake, Clyde Wether of Detroit, Michigan, owns 20 acres. Then from his line there are five cottages with two empty lots. Charles McCombs' farm extends along the rest of the west side to the outlet, which empties into Mirror Lake. The state stocks the lake and the fishing is very good, both summer and winter.

### Walters Lake

Walters Lake is situated 2 miles northwest of Fremont in Fremont Township. A small part of it projects westward into Jamestown Township. It lies in section 18. The area is 37 acres, and the average depth is 30 feet and the maximum is 60 feet. The bottom is muck.

The lake is not developed for cottages or recreations other than fishing. Boats are available for this purpose. The lake is named for the Walters families who have lived there for several generations; John and Enos Walters having been older residents.

### Fish Lake

Fish Lake is one mile north of Fremont. It has an area of 51 acres and an average depth of 30 feet with a maximum of 57 feet. It is situated in sections 16-21. The bottom is muck.

The lake is not developed to recreations or bathing. Boats and boat landings are available for fishing.

### Pigeon Lake

Pigeon Lake is located in section 39 of Scott Township and is one of the smaller lakes of the county. On account of the bold shore-line, most of the way around the lake, it has never been developed as a resort area, but the surrounding timber makes the scenery most beautiful, with the green of summer and the gorgeous colors of autumn.

The lake is better known for its fishing advantages. Ice fishing is especially popular with those who love the sport. Some of the older fishermen claim that the fish caught in this lake are of superior quality.

Several years ago, about 1900, the lake was dredged and consequently, the water level was lowered, thus many acres of rich farm lands were added to the adjacent farms.

The dredge was owned and operated by a Mr. Harding, and started at Cedar Lake in Fremont Township, passing down through the inlet and



across the lake to the outlet, and going as far as Pleasant Lake.

The lake is accessible from highway 20 about 3 miles east of Angola. At the present time the old bridge across Pigeon Creek is being replaced by a new one just north of the old, thus eliminating a dangerous curve.

#### **Pleasant Lake**

Pleasant Lake lies on the southwest side of the town of Pleasant Lake and is four miles south of the city of Angola.

The Lake is a mile long and a quarter of a mile wide. It is a government controlled lake and has fifty acres of water surface with an average depth of 40 feet and a maximum of 65 feet. The belt of shallow water around the lake is, as a rule very narrow. The bottom of the lake is gravel. The fishing is good.

The banks rise sharply all around and they are built up with many cottages and homes. The population of the town, which includes the lake is seven hundred.

It has Lake View Court with twelve cabins and six boats operated by Marvin Rowe. The second court is the Shell Cabin Camp with ten boats. There are about forty boats on the lake including those privately owned.

The town has an interesting history which is fully described in Mark Ransburg's story of Pleasant Lake.

#### **Gooseneck Lake**

Gooseneck Lake is one mile east of Pleasant Lake and consists of 40 acres of water with an average depth of 20 feet and a maximum depth of 28 feet. The bottom is marl.

The land around the lake is wooded and attractive. The shores are undeveloped and the lake is not suitable for bathing. There is little fishing on this lake.

#### **Black Lake**

Black Lake is four miles west of Angola in section 6, Steuben Township. The area is 15 acres. The depth varies from 14 to 30 feet. The bottom is muck.

#### **Long Lake in Steuben Township**

Long Lake lies just north of Pleasant Lake, close to the L. S. and M. S. Railroad. It is in sections 15 and 16 of Steuben Township. The lake is a little over one mile long by a quarter of a mile wide,

much resembling a willow leaf. The lake has an area of about 92 acres. In depth, Long Lake varies from 25 to 39 feet. Excepting at the east end, the belt of shallow water is rather narrow. The land around the lake is inclined to be marshy, and an extensive marsh stretches east and south from the western end of the water area. The water of the lake is of rich amber color, characteristic of Pigeon Creek, which flows through the lake, entering at the extreme east end and flowing out at the western extremity.

At the east end of the lake the bottom is of muck to beyond a depth of six feet. From there marl sets in. Along the south shore there is a sandy beach and also along the north shore. There are approximately 60-65 cottages, one grocery, one boat rental situated on the lake, all of which are on the north side of the lake. Also, there is the Pleasant Lake Conservation Club on the north side of the lake. About 15 families live on the lake the year round.

#### **Bower Lakes (Big and Little)**

Bower Lakes are called big and little Bower Lakes. These are two small kettle holes filled with water, through which Pigeon Creek flows on its way from Long Lake to Golden Lake. The deep water of each sets in close to the shore, which is about 30 feet. Little Bower Lake is the first lake going from Long to Golden, and it is approximately one-half mile from Long Lake. There are no cottages on the lake.

Big Bower Lake is about a mile from Little Bower, and about twice as big. There are 10 cottages on the lake, 3 of which are on the west side and the others on the east side. There are two boat rentals and one grocery store.

#### **Golden Lake**

Golden Lake is just across the road from Big Bower Lake, with Pigeon Creek entering at the southeast corner of the lake. The lake lies in sections 5, 6, and 8. It has a length of about one and one half miles and a width of one quarter of a mile. It has an acreage of 118 and a depth of from 25 to 37 feet. The bottom is of gravel and marl. Pigeon Creek leaves at the extreme north end of the lake. There are two cottage rentals on the lake, one grocery store. There are approximately 60 cottages on the lake, 32 on the east side, 23 on the west side, and 6 on the north end. Golden Lake is probably the fastest growing lake

in Steuben Township as there seem to be cottages springing up on the lake every summer.

### Hog Back Lake

Four and one-half miles west of Angola and one-half mile south lies beautiful Hog Back Lake, in section 36. It is listed in the Indiana Lake Guide as having 121 acres of water surface. The average depth is 18 ft. and the maximum is 26 ft. It is listed as having a gravel bottom.

It is a beautiful lake with beaches lined with shade trees and many regard it as one of the prettiest lakes in the county. There are around fifty to sixty cottages on the lake. A thriving little community of permanent homes and cottages has grown up on the east shore. A grocery store, boat and cottage rental, are furnished by Harry Holsinger and his wife.

Harry Dove and John Trownfelter also rent boats as may some others. Trailer and camping space are rented by Harry Dove. A small but good beach is available.

The west and south shores are undeveloped as yet. On the north shore is Benson's Subdivision. Several cottages have been erected there and lots are available.

Hog Back is regarded as one of the good fishing lakes of the county. Bass, pike, blue-gills, crappies, and perch abound in the lake and attract fishermen from Indianapolis, Cleveland and South Bend.

The north shore of the lake was the locale of a battle fought between the soldiers of Anthony Wayne and the Miami Indians led by Chief Little Turtle. The Indians were decisively defeated and many were killed or drowned as they attempted to escape by swimming the lake.

Hog Back receives its water from a large area and from several directions. From the north it drains Howard Lake which in turn drains Bass Lake. From the east comes the water from Silver Lake and its drainage basin. From the southeast the waters from Golden Lake, Little and Big Bower Lakes and Long Lake, are received. This chain of lakes is a part of the system of Pigeon Creek which begins in Fremont Township and Pigeon Lake in Scott Township.

Hog Back is divided into two arms or bodies of water of about equal size, separated by a narrow channel, so that many do not realize the true extent of the lake, as they can see only one-half at one time. It discharges its waters into Pigeon Creek which enlarges as it flows westward to be-

come Pigeon River. Pigeon River drains into the St. Joseph River and the St. Joseph into Lake Michigan.

### Otter Lake (West of Angola)

From Hog Back, a river run of four and one-half miles leads to Otter Lake near the west line of the county. It is eight miles west of Angola, near U. S. road 20. It has an area of 114 acres. It is 20 to 39 feet in depth. It has a marl bottom. It is divided into two basins with much swampy and marshy land in the surrounding areas. It has 12 to 15 cottages and boats are available.

Across the road from Otter Lake is Gravel Lake which drains into Otter. It has an area of fifteen acres. Its depth varies from 20 to 39 feet. The bottom is muck.

### Shallow, Deep, Little and Beaver Dam

"These four lakes are connected by a narrow stream and so form a chain which occupies a valley in the western half of sections 6 and 7. Beaver Dam Lake, in the northeastern quarter of section 6, is one-half mile long and 30 rods wide, and occupies a narrow valley between two parallel ridges. Its present depth is from 15 to 26 feet. Little Lake is nothing more than a large pond in the southwest quarter of the same section. Its water area is 20 acres and its margins are thickly covered with rushes and other water loving vegetation. It is said by residents of the vicinity, that their bottoms and margins were composed wholly of marl of great depth.

"Deep Lake, in the northwest quarter of section 7, has a water area of about ten acres and a maximum depth of 28 feet. Its southern shore is less than 30 rods north of the northwest corner of Shallow Lake. Its shores are low and surrounded by marsh.

"Shallow Lake lies near the center of section 7. Around 1900, it was drained by a ditch running to the southwest, so that in that year its water area became about fifteen acres and two to five to sixteen feet in depth. Part of the bottom is marl, according to an older survey, but the state today lists it as having a muck bottom. The shores are low and surrounded by wide marsh except at the east, where, ten rods from the edge of the water, a gravelly ridge rises 20 feet above the lake."

From the side of the ridge, opposite the middle of the lake, two fine springs emerge about ten



rods apart. The larger of the two has a flow of at least 150 gallons per minute, and the other, one-half as much.

#### **Lime Kiln Lake**

Lime Kiln Lake is in section 28-29 and is another of the smaller lakes. The older generation relates the story that the lake had lime kilns near the shores in the early days and hence Lime Kiln. This story, however, is not authentic.

When God made Salem Township  
With its lakes and rolling land  
He made a place of beauty  
All with his master hand.

#### **Lake Pleasant**

Lake Pleasant lies in sections 13-18, four miles east of Orland, partly in Millgrove with the eastern part extending into Jamestown Township. Its northern shore extends along the Michigan border. It has an area of 294 acres. Its average depth is 16 feet and its maximum is 45 feet. The bottom is marl.

It is described as a beautiful lake and there are many beautiful cottages and homes built along its shores. It is the location of the Kasota Golf Course. A new pleasure resort has been opened on this lake in the past year. An older resort is known as Rubley Platt.

#### **Brown Lake**

Brown Lake, formerly known as Mud Lake, lies 500 feet to the north and south of Wall Lake, which is spring-fed, and the outlet from it leads into Brown Lake.

"The Lake was named for Bert Brown, a citizen of Orland, who became a noted cornetist and who owned the land adjoining the lake. It is now a part of the Brown-Wall Subdivision which is a pleasure resort located at the northwest corner of Millgrove Township.

#### **Tamarack Lake**

"Tamarack Lake, two and one-half miles east of Orland in sections 22-27, lies beyond Lake Gage northward and is slowly being obliterated, which affords a study of the curious swamp growth, this being almost as impenetrable as cane brakes." It has its outlet into Crooked Creek, which drains the Lake James System. Its area is 47 acres, and its depth five feet to fourteen feet. Its bottom is marl. There are boats for fishing on the lake.

#### **Big Turkey Lake**

Big Turkey Lake is the largest Lake in Salem Township and a detailed description of the lake is given in the Salem Township Chapter.

#### **McClish Lake**

McClish Lake, in section 31, is a smaller lake but in recent years has grown in popularity. It is stocked with trout and has some good beaches. Jesse Sherrick (deceased) platted the first lots around the lake and gave it the name of Elm Grove, which consisted of twenty lots.

Salem Township shares Lake of the Woods with LaGrange County, for only the east end of the lake is in Salem Township in section 30. Jesse Sherrick, Harold and Ruby Gnatt, have platted lots around the east end and it is known as "Blue Haven Addition." There are many cottages and public buildings around Lake of the Woods, but only the Conservation Club House is in Salem Township.

Little Turkey Lake, in section 35, has some fishing but has never been promoted as a resort lake. In its natural state, it adds to the natural beauty of Salem Township.

Turkey Creek flows from Little Turkey to Big Turkey Lake and at an early date a pioneer village sprang up along the Creek and the Settlement still bears the name of Turkey Creek. About 1790, a French trading post was established at Turkey Creek by Alexander La Fronbois who came from the Milwaukee Territory. Two Indian trails crossed at this point, making it a suitable place for trading, and the furs were marketed in Fort Wayne. According to tradition, Alexander LaFronbois married the daughter of an Indian Chief, and raised a large family. He became quite wealthy and the Trading Post was discontinued in the early 1800's.

Another small lake in the township is Henry Lake, located in sections 18 and 19. It has no cottages or resort activity but the Salem Fire Dept. has a loading dock there where they obtain water. The lake received its name from M. Henry, an early pioneer, who was a frequent fisherman there.

#### **Center Lake**

Center Lake is so called because its location lies just east of Parker's Corners. There is also a loading dock there for the Salem Fire Department. This lake is extremely deep and dangerous.

### **Lime Lake**

"Lime Lake lies northwest of Lake Gage in section 35. It is a small lake of about 50 acres and is said to be about 30 feet deep in the center. There is a broad bench of shallow water all around the lake, and its shores are low. This lake has a marl bottom.

"Lime Lake lies about one mile and a half northwest of Orland in section 18, Millgrove Township. In shape it is oval, and at present has about thirty-five acres of water surface. The greatest depth is 39 feet, and the average depth is 15 feet, and from a distance looks like milk on account of the reflection of the marl at the bottom. The lake lies in a narrow valley between hills 30 or more feet in height. On the west is a marsh five to eight rods in width. On the north and south the marsh extends for a long distance up and down the valley. On the east, the water reaches the base of a ridge of gravel. No vegetation, not even chara, exists at present in the water. The outlet of the lake is a small stream which flows into Anderson Lake, 30 miles north of the state line, southward through Lime Lake and empties into Crooked Creek. The marsh land lies on both sides of the stream." (Blatchley's Report, 1900).

Perch, crappies, blue-gills, pike and large mouth bass are caught here. The marl in this lake is very white and pure. It was burned for lime in the early settlement of the country.

### **Warner's Lake**

Warner's Lake, one and one-half miles east of Orland in a section of 27, has an area of 30 acres. It is 15 to 25 feet in depth and the bottom is muck.

### **Belle Lake**

Belle Lake, four miles southeast of Orland lies in sections 25-36. It has an area of 34 acres with a depth of from twelve to twenty-four feet. The bottom is muck. It lies between Jimmerson and Lime Lakes in the northwest quarter of the county.

### **Chambers Lake**

Chambers Lake lies four miles southeast of Orland in section 26. It has an area of 20 acres and its depth is twenty feet to forty-seven feet. The bottom is marl.

### **Cranberry Lake**

Cranberry Lake lies two miles southwest of Orland in section 31. It has an area of 15 acres. Its

depth varies from 14 feet to 30 feet. The bottom is muck.

### **Goodrich Lake**

Goodrich Lake lies one and one-half miles south of Orland in section 32. It has an area of 15 acres and in depth is from 5 feet to 10 feet. The bottom is muck.

### **Mud Lake**

Mud Lake, two and one-half miles southeast of Orland has an area of 25 acres, with a depth of 15 to 40 feet. It has a marl bottom.

### **Perch Lake**

Perch Lake, three and one-half miles southeast of Orland, has an area of 15 acres and is 18 feet to 36 feet in depth. The bottom is gravel.

### **Reservoir or Mill-Dam Lake**

Reservoir or Mill-Dam Lake lies one mile north of Orland in section 20. It has an area of 30 acres and it is 5 feet to 10 feet in depth. The bottom is sandy. It is the location of a State Fish Hatchery, described in the Chapter on Orland Observations.

### **Jimmerson Lake**

"Jimmerson Lake is less than half a mile down stream from James Lake. Its open water lies in the form of a St. Andrew Cross and from its center a beautiful view is obtained into each of the four arms, each of which is about half a mile long. The depth varies from 30 to 34 feet. From the northwest extremity, a narrow neck or finger reaches out a mile or more to Nevada Mills, the outlet."

The above description was written in 1901-02 by W. C. B. Blatchley, State Geologist, in the commissioner's report, "Fish and Game," of that year. Since that time many cottages have been built around its shores, including several year round residences.

There are 10 plats around Jimmerson Lake, counting the Additions. The first listed is Buena Vista, with 34 cottages, Lura's Cove, 6 cottages, Leo's Point, which has ten (10) cottages, Delphos with 1 cottage, Braman's Cove, 1 cottage and Oak Beach which has 11 cottages. Possibly 100 cottages are located in Jimmerson Lake. A number are not mentioned in the Plats. (The above is from Fred Aldrich)

The grist mill and the subsequent electrical generating plant have been discontinued at Ne-



vada Mills. The outlet is now owned by the Department of Conservation, as noted in its description of James Lake.

A portion of the basin is marl bottom and the remainder sand and gravel.

Jimmerson is located in Jamestown township. The shorelines are somewhat irregular but are well defined. The vegetation in the lake is not too plentiful, but does furnish an adequate production of food for the fish there. Fish life is practically the same as in James Lake.

The dam at the outlet of Jimmerson Lake at Nevada Mills controls the level of Jimmerson, James and Snow lakes. This dam was redesigned and rebuilt in 1948-49 to provide better regulation of the lake levels. It has a combination of overflow spillways and hand-operated regulating gates.

"The average normal level of Jimmerson Lake was set by the Steuben County Circuit Court on July 1, 1947, at elevation 964.66 feet, mean sea level datum, or gage height 4.66 feet." (Denzil Doggett)

#### **Assessed Valuation of Hamilton Lake, Lake James and Clear Lake**

"The assessed valuation (1948) of the property presently around Hamilton lake, including \$188,110 for the Hamilton Corporations, is \$551,100. The total assessed valuation for Otsego Township, exclusive of lake property and the Hamilton Corporation is \$826,470. In this case the property and improvements dependent upon the lake carry 24.2 per cent of the total tax load of the township." (Denzil Doggett) Department of Conservation.

"The assessed valuations (1948) of the property around James Lake, including Snow Lake, was \$741,860, while the total assessed valuation of all property in Pleasant and Jamestown townships, exclusive of all lake properties, was \$1,241,120 and \$650,520 respectively or a total of \$1,891,640. In this case the lake properties carry 28.2 percent of the real property taxes of the two townships.

"The assessed valuation of property around Clear Lake and Round Lake (including the Clear Lake Corporation), is \$601,360 (1948) compared to an assessed valuation of \$218,930 for the remainder of Clear Lake township, which has a total area of 12 square miles."

These figures were prepared by Denzil Doggett for the Department of Conservation.

#### **Crooked Lake**

Crooked Lake lies in Pleasant Township in sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 16 and 17. It is five miles northwest of Angola and near U.S. # 20.

"The lake was originally bottle or gourd shaped, but is now practically divided into two parts at the east side. The main part, or the part east of this, is divided into two lobes by a long narrow point from the north. The part west of the road, in section seven is really a long narrow neck, nearly choked with vegetation. The total area of Crooked Lake, including Crooked Lake Flats, is 1035 acres. The bottom is marl.

"There are three basins: The eastern basin which is the largest; the middle basin, the smallest; and the western basin, which is nearly as large as the main or eastern basin. The depth varies from 20 feet and contains much shallow water. From the east side a broad hammer shaped bar extends out half way across the lake. The water here is nowhere more than two feet in depth, even at the longest point out. Just west of it is a small island or shoal. From the west shore a broad bar extends out, bending towards the north. Over much of this the water is only six inches to one foot in depth. The point of the land from the north is continued out some distance to the south in a long shoal. The shallow water belt is usually less than one hundred feet in width.

"In the middle basin there is a large area of shallow water just west of the end of the point from the north. The western end of the embankment is now nearly filled up, being practically shut off from the lake by a marl bar. The northwest lobe is very shallow in places, being readily crossed by wading.

Though abrupt in places, the banks are neither as high nor as steep as the neighboring Lake James. In places they rise from fifty to seventy feet above the water level of the lake. At several places along the east shore is a broad sandy beach very popular with bathers." (Blatchley's Report 1900.)

Owing to the nearness of the Lake Shore Railroad, Crooked Lake was one of the first lakes in the county to be developed. It is fed by natural springs. Its shore line affords suitable bathing beaches that are among the finest in the country.

Many fine resort areas have been developed around the shores of this lake, and there are approximately four hundred cottages and homes in

the surrounding areas. These resorts are: Southside Beach, Homestead Beach, East Side Beach, Homestead Beach, Arcadia Beach, Teepee Ridge, Point Park, Point Westoos, Oak Park, Lakewood, McLouth Point, West Bay Plat, Popular Beach Plat, and Sycamore Beach Plat.

Two good Hotels are located on the lake. The Sunset Inn Incorporated, on the north side of the third basin, was once known as the Sheets Hotel. The Captain's Cabin, a widely known eating place, has been operated by Wiley Bryan for more than twenty years. The Screwballs of America has its Lodge and Club Rooms in the same building.

Good boat services are provided on this as on other lakes in the county and the fishing is of the same species as are caught elsewhere in Steuben County Lakes.

Elmer Manock maintains a boat livery on the south side of the first basin.

Perry Waite's Grocery is located on the south side of the second basin.

Ralph Garrison has the Westside Grocery on the west side of the first basin.

The Crooked Lake Sportsman's Club House is located on the north side of the first basin.

The Crooked Lake Cottage Owners Association is an organization which looks after the interests of the people and properties on the lake.

The water level of Crooked Lake is twenty-two feet higher than Lake James. It has an outlet into Cord Creek which flows into Lake Gage.

## UNITED STATES HISTORY CROOKED LAKE

**Suggested by Fred Sheets**

**Forty-Seven Yards From Here**

This world famed lake was dug by the Sheets Brothers, who emigrated to Steuben County in 1782. Several years later upon one of his Northern pilgrimages, Davy Crockett camped on the site now occupied by the Boat House, and after observing the methods of trading between the brothers and the native Indians, Crockett named the body of water "Crooked Lake."

The Northern shore was built up mostly with cabins, eating houses, trading posts and wharfs. At the present time fish-hounds, tourists and others come for many leagues to nourish the denizens of the lake.

The South side was settled later by Sam Kuntz,

Bob Work and Mos Quitos, who now enjoy good fishing with many bites.

The scraggy oaks that jot the shore were planted by the Brothers who were associated in that early day with "Johnny Appleseed" who passed this point on his way to the Michigan fruit country.

The many stones and boulders that now adorn the shady drives were moulded and patterned after the famous stone now known as "Plymouth Rock."

The lowest tide the lake has ever reached was when the entire country went dry in 1920, at which time the Brothers, assisted by the resorters, had to pump water in the moonshine to enable the Fish to thrive.

Many of the boats now in use are the product of Gene Sheets, who labored many hours in the early days hewing out the various models that still float on the lake at the present time.

The General Store and Inn now operated by Fred, ranks in popularity with those of Belgium, France, German, Italy and Waterloo, and has sheltered among its guests in the earlier periods, a person who shook hands with the great-grandfather of General Coxey.

Another notable event that is now commemorated yearly with fireworks and appropriate speeches and addresses, is a "fish" dinner that was served at the Inn on June 27, 1873.

The present day tourists and campers are able to supply all their needs at the Store, where a full line of all the necessities of life are to be found, including flour, flashlights, cigars, canned goods, pots, peanuts, gasoline, garlic, etc.

Many curiosities and relics adorn the store room, among which are horns from the canteloupe, fish hounds that abound the lake; wooden shoes worn by the Brothers, (Gene and Fred), in their pioneer days; yoke worn by dog fish in excavating the lake, and hornets' nests, which are still very numerous even in these days.

It might be well at this time to caution patrons of the lake to use extreme care or suffer the results of being "stung."

Another work of art is the facial carving of the proprietor, executed by Alonzo Binello, who visited this country in 1842.

The present day resorters are compelled most of the time to wear glasses for eye strain, brought on by persistent looking for fish, flappers and bathing girls.



Red Squirrels are used at the Inn for the purpose of awakening the guests. The squirrels gnaw on the roof over the bed chambers. If this fails to arouse the sleeper the proprietor shoots several shots at the squirrel.

Among the noted characters which have been seen at this resort during the season of 1922, are Everett True, Jiggs, Maggie, Gump, Walt, Resident Karding, and others.

Experts give daily swimming lessons to all kinds of Fish, and other resorters who are desirous of learning the art.

### Recreational Industry

When nature so bountifully endowed Steuben County with beautiful lakes, and surrounded them with hardwood forests of great variety and loveliness, it followed naturally that the recreational industry would become an important part of the economic structure of the people who lived there. With each passing decade, these people have become increasingly aware of this fine heritage of great natural beauty opening up many opportunities for lucrative business, and bringing satisfying human relations and life-long friendships with people in surrounding areas and distant places.

When the territory was preparing the way for Statehood, the Indian Trading Post forming the nucleus of a settlement; the trail becoming a road; the settler clearing his land and making a home in the wilderness, and, when the need arose to supply his table with extra food to supplement his husbandry, the lakes and forests stood waiting, abounding in wild game and the waters with an abundance of fish. In the midst of toil and hardship, here was recreation that could not be surpassed. As the cities, towns, and country grew, the lake regions became more and more the centers of hunting and fishing. Here, long before the advent of the automobile, civic and picnic groups sought the wooded shores of a lake or a spring of running water to enjoy the wonderland of forests, birds and flowers.

As the fame of the lakes grew, people drove many miles in horse-drawn vehicles to find a hospitable farmer to stable a horse, furnish lodging and to provide a boat. Children would sell a few hundred fish worms for some small change to spend at the County Fair. The services grew to meet the demands, and in time people who owned property began to cater to all the needs of these pleasant visitors and guests. Thus the boat service

began and a store appeared to sell fishing tackle, candy, soft drinks, sandwiches, etc. These satisfied and interested people began to seek land to buy or lease on which cabins or cottages could be built for summer homes. Today, hundreds of cabins, cottages and homes, line the shores of the lakes and represent investments running into millions of dollars. With the increased comforts of modern living, the tendency is to build modern homes at the lakes.

With real estate development, the Summer Resort Hotels were built on many lakes, inviting those who desired more leisure, service, and entertainment. Also, in the vicinity of the lakes, restaurants cater to the cottage trade that does not wish to spend time in the usual routine of household duties. Often these restaurants have sidelines, such as groceries, filling stations, boats and other services.

The Railroads and Interurban Cars contributed to the success of the earliest resorts by running excursions and having daily transportation services from the towns and cities. When a station was near a lake, many people made use of this convenience and on special occasions, there were times when the numbers ran into thousands.

The "Old Steamer" appeared as the first boat service for pleasure and transportation. Following this came the gasoline launch, once seen everywhere upon the lakes. Then the speed boats and out-board motors were available for pleasure craft, making it possible for more people to enjoy speedier transportation, and promote new sports, such as water skiing, a sport that is developing much interest at the present time. The sail boat, too, is a source of much pleasure to many people. Boat services are on all lakes, so that the tourists and fishermen find their needs well cared for; while the profits derived from boats and repair services are bid for in every lake region.

The bait business itself has become profitable with people furnishing the type of bait that has proven most satisfactory on the lake which they service.

The lakes offer a constant appeal to the sportsman throughout every season of the year; from the first spring days after the ice melts, through the warm summer months, and the bright fall days, and on into the winter, when the ice fishing comes. The challenge is always there. In the recreation of fishing, his skill and resourcefulness is challenged as he seeks his quarry along the shores, on the sand

bars, and the deep water holes or in a sheltered bay or neck. While the primary value of lake fishing is recreation and relief from daily toil and duties, it furnishes food values in dollars and cents, that reach a considerable amount. Pike, blue gills, black and small mouthed bass, perch, red ears, and bull heads, are the favorite species of fish caught in the waters of Steuben County.

Many kinds of wild fowl, such as ducks and mudhens, add a note of color and interest to our lakes in the fall and spring. The mallard, wood duck, teal, canvasback, and red ears, are seen by the lake dwellers and hunters who are always ready to enjoy the sports offered in the hunting season, whether trapping or shooting. The honking of the wild goose is still heard and one is reminded of the stories of the early hunters who told how, during their seasonal flight, they filled every pond and depression, how the wild turkeys were so plentiful and the flight of the pigeons so dense, as partly to obscure the sun.

Bathing recreation is always a top feature at every lake. And its history: At a sandy beach on any lake, children and their elders find an "Old Swimming Hole." There are many lakes that have natural sandy bottoms, ideal for bathing; others that have good commercial beaches, which resort owners have built to make bathing more attractive along with what nature has afforded. The hot weather finds people eager to enjoy this delightful and refreshing relaxation.

The skating rink is found at some of the lakes and is a popular pastime for young people, who drive many miles to enjoy this diversion.

Dancing, which has always been a fine form of entertainment, is provided for in the County with two Ball rooms featuring the modern dance orchestras. Bands developed on the campus of our Universities have become familiar names in areas for miles around. Broadcasting stations have become interested and are arranging to use some of these bands over their networks.

In the past few years, there has been a revived interest in square dancing, and some of the towns have dance places catering to this pastime.

There are picnic grounds found throughout the county, where people can camp and have reunions. The Pokagon State Park and the County Parks furnish splendid opportunities for the recreation of the tourists and the communities. Buck Lake Ranch on Buck Lake; Bledsoe Beach at Lake James; Cold Springs Resort and Circle Park on

Hamilton Lake; are recreational centers that are known to almost everyone in Steuben County, and indeed their popularity extends far beyond the limits of the county.

Several towns such as Orland, Hudson, Hamilton and Angola, have community parks and athletic fields, of which they are highly proud. Many serve in connection with the schools. They contain tracks, tennis and bad-minton courts, base-ball diamonds, bleachers, and everything for a well rounded community center.

Horse back riding has its devoted followers in Steuben County; at nearly all the larger lakes, this is provided for with riding academies. Some places the pony rides are popular. There is great enjoyment in this skill and many tourists are delighted to find it available at a recreation spot.

For the golfer who would like to engage in his favorite sport, there are two splendid golf courses. The Lake James Country Club is centrally located and can be reached from all parts of the County. The other, the Kasota Golf Course is located on Lake Pleasant.

The great interest the American people have in sports is not neglected in the winter season. The Pokagon State Park has created activities in the form of skiing and tobogganing that has made many enthusiastic followers.

A merry twinkle grows in the eye of many an oldster as he reminisces about a turtle stew and refreshments on the banks of a lake in the dimming past, or looks about an old familiar spot and says, "This is where it all happened; this is where we had our courtship." The lakes have hung pictures of memory in the minds of many people who have journeyed to these recreational spots in youth, and with their families through the passing years.

"Most of the people who spend their vacations in the county are within the borders of the state. However, since Steuben County is so close to the Ohio and Michigan borders, many residents of those states own properties on the lakes, and vacation here. This out of town ownership brings many tourists dollars into Indiana, as the purchase price of lots, of buildings or building materials, as contractors' profits, and as taxes on the property and improvements. In addition, groceries, gasoline, and other items of living expenses, add materially to the income of merchants located in this county."

With the development of improved highways and transportation, the tempo of the tourist busi-



ness has increased annually, and the recreational industry has grown apace. The alert merchants have noticed this, and have been quick to offer larger and more varied lines of attractive merchandise, with an eye to gaining larger sales. Thus the hardware merchants, druggists, grocers, general merchants, garagemen, barbers and beauticians, all have enlarged trade and benefits, which have enabled them to provide finer centers of business for everyone.

The farmer has found the summer camper a ready buyer for his produce from the farm and truck patch, and he has taken advantage of these markets to sell poultry, dairy products, eggs, fruit, vegetables and flowers. They also share in the recreations the lakes offer, along with the towns and cities. The tax responsibilities of the farms, towns, and communities generally, are helped greatly by the taxes contributed from Lake real estate and personal properties and the recreational industries.

Increasing numbers of people look forward to spending their vacations at the lakes, and this has been furthered by having a shorter week, thus allowing more time for recreation. From the people who like to enjoy these trips to and from the lakes, to the resort owners, who have invested a great deal of money and work to accommodate them, and to everyone who benefits directly or indirectly, the importance of good roads is of vital interest, as improved highways make accessible the lake regions. There are many fine roads in the county and the residents who appreciate their value are always looking attentively to their needs.

The Chambers of Commerce and Business Men's Clubs have backed projects dramatizing the lakes, while Conservation Clubs have interested themselves in the preservation of fish and game.

Now, there is no one in the county who does not benefit directly or indirectly from the Recreational Industry, whether he owns a piece of lake property or not. There are so many benefits accruing from taxes on lake real estate and personal properties and the increased business therefrom, that I am informed that taxes for the townships would be much greater were it not for the Recreational Industries.

"A former member of the Angola Chamber of Commerce, C. J. Pilliod, made a general survey of the county to determine the economic value of the Recreational Industry, which our lakes bring

to the community, and many people were interviewed. After interviewing a number of summer visitors and numerous people who own rental cottages, he estimated that 3,500 families vacation in Steuben County from June to Labor Day, that each cottage, rented furnished for \$35.00 to \$60.00 per week, that the average number of people in each group was six, and that each group spent \$100.00 for sundries and incidentals, making a total of approximately a million dollars that flowed into the trade channels of the locality. It was also estimated that each person spent \$30.00 on his week's vacation at the lake."

"It was also found that the volume of summer business in 1948, when the survey was taken, had been three to five times greater than that of 1940 (prior to the war) but that higher prices and greater costs of operation were having an adverse effect on shopkeepers of the locality by drastically cutting their profits."

"In general, each person and agency contacted, appreciated the value of lake business and felt it meant considerable to them and stated that the effect would be greater if they did not have the trade the vacationers brought to their establishments.

"In the tax records, Steuben County lists 10,055 lots in the lake subdivisions and plats, other than corporations such as Hamilton. Clear Lake Corporation is included since it is unique, in that it embraces practically all the lots around Clear Lake. In the listings are included unincorporated towns and villages such as Jamestown, Nevada Mills, etc.

"By comparing the total assessed valuation of all farm lands and their improvements, it was found that the lake lots and improvements were 21.8 per cent of the total valuation of the county."

Denzil Doggett of the Department of Conservation has given me the privilege of quoting from his writings on the Lakes, and they are in quotation marks above. He requested that credit be given to the Conservation Department.

The County Assessor, Ralph Caswell, furnishes some lists that will be interesting: 1954 Tax Assessments for Towns, Farms and Lakes. Here are the assessed valuations of properties and farm lands, together with their tax rates as a means of comparison, so that we may more readily appreciate their tax contributions to the township:

Names of Town- ship and Towns	Lake Assessments	Farms	Rates
Pleasant	\$1,428,600	\$1,727,970-½	\$ 3.02
Clear Lake	815,910		2.78
Clear Lake Farms		290,980	2.48
Jamestown	759,980	890,940-½	2.02
Otsego	443,980	912,710	2.14
Millgrove	188,750	528,310	2.30
Scott		770,870	3.60
Fremont		523,640	2.48
Jackson	132,350	911,950	2.18
Salem	148,160	960,670	1.86
Richland		431,610	2.78
Steuben	63,740	1,032,470	2.48
York		523,160	2.96
TOWNS:	Towns		
Angola (Pleasant)	3,523,160		4.10
Hamilton (Otsego)	300,840		2.84
Orland (Millgrove)	215,760		2.62
Helmer	53,190		1.86
Hudson (Salem)	104,560		3.76
Pleasant Lake	193,380		2.48
Hudson (Steuben)	61,730		4.38
Ashley Corp. (Steuben)	103,130		4.38

In Steuben County, the usual charge for a row boat is \$1.00 to \$1.50 per day; for an outboard motor, \$1.00 per hour; and \$5.00 per day; and for speed boat rides, 75¢ to \$1.50 per person.

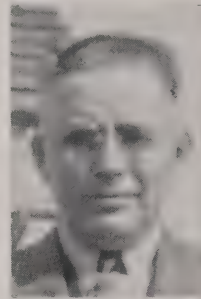
The following was taken from "Resort Management."

"The American Automobile Association estimates that 65 per cent of the tourist travel is by private passenger car. Of the motorist's travel dollar, roughly 20¢ goes for transportation costs such as gasoline, garageing and accessories purchased enroute; 20¢ for over-night accommodations; 25¢ to retail stores; 21¢ to restaurants and wayside vendors; and 3¢ to theaters and other places of amusement. These figures, though approximate, demonstrate the role of the tourist dollar in benefiting not one or two classes of people, but by finding its way into a great diversity of channels, and effecting our entire economic structure."

While we bear in mind the advantages the lakes bring to the county, let us not forget that the greater number of buildings around the lakes are seasonal dwellings, and their owners pay taxes, but as a rule, do not send children to school in this county. It is also a very short season from

which to draw an income for those who operate a business interest, depending on recreations.

Note: Grateful recognition is hereby given the following people who so graciously assisted in compiling the chapter on "Lakes of Steuben County." Many thanks are extended. They are as follows: Kenneth Wells, Silver Lake; Mrs. Carl McClue, Snow Lake; Mrs. Hazel B. Laird, Long Lake (Clear Lake Township); Mrs. Frank Patterson, Big Otter and Little Otter; Mrs. Wm. Butler, Lake Gage; Mrs. P. H. Montgomery, Lake George; Mrs. Emma Chard, Pigeon Lake; Josephine Parsell, Lakes of Salem Township; Stephen Woodworth, Golden Lake and Long Lake; Wm. E. Benson, Hog Back Lake; Arnold Fee, Ball's Lake; Charles Anspaugh, Jr., Loon Lake.



## Pokagon State and Steuben County Parks

By Emery Boyd

(Much of this is from an early booklet by the Indiana State Department of Conservation)

March 25, 1925 formal approval from the Department of Conservation for the proposed park site at Lake James, in Steuben County was signed by Governor Ed. Jackson and Director Richard Lieber. All that was needed to complete the taking over of the park site was action by the Steuben County Commissioners. The personnel of that Board at that time was: Dorsey Reese, Charles S. Shutts and Hugh L. Gilbert.

The Department of Conservation had been authorized to begin work on the park as soon as all provisions of the law were complied with. This put thousands of dollars in the County for workmen and materials. This park plan was carefully planned and launched by a group of civic-minded people of the county for the purpose of preserving and developing the natural resources of the county. This increased the valuation of the surrounding properties, and ultimately the value of all property in the County. It helped to decrease the burden of taxes carried by the farmers and others. It was the judgment of the sponsors that the State Park



would not only increase the value of all county real estate, but would help business to such an extent that more taxes would be brought into the county treasury than the whole project had cost the taxpayers. And that has been the result.

Very soon after the project was launched, and it was proposed to issue bonds for the purpose, objections arose from two sources, one within and one outside the county. A number of people in the county, led by a farmer named Amos Beach, circulated a petition in opposition to the issuing of bonds, to raise the money for the purchase of the land. They hired attorneys to contest the constitutionality of the law under which the issue of the bonds was to be made. There was some question as to the validity of the law, and ultimately, to avoid the long delay that would ensue in case of an appeal to the State Supreme Court, the promoters of the park project made a settlement with the remonstrators and raised sufficient money to pay them the sum agreed as compensation in the settlement. The remonstrators withdrew their objections and on December 21, 1925, in the DeKalb Circuit Court, special Judge James H. Rose, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, in the suit of Amos Beach et al, against the Steuben County Board of Commissioners ruled that the action by the Commissioners was valid and constitutional. In making his decision the Judge held that chapter 15, of the Acts of 1915, under which proceedings were brought was valid and constitutional, and that the County Commissioners had proceeded under their constitutional dignity and that the \$35,000.00 bond issue to pay for the lands was regular and lawful, and the bonds were issued and sold.

By agreement, judgment was entered against the defendant for costs. Redmond and Emerick, of Kendallville, were counsel for the plaintiff, while the Steuben County Commissioners were represented by Best & Yotter, Clyde C. Carlin, Maurice McClew and A. C. Wood. The County Commissioners, having been in continued session on Monday, and the bonds having been sold to the First National Bank, the bonds were turned over to the bank, and deed for the land was received by the Department of Conservation from Ernest Waters. The Conservation Department then began making extensive plans for the park for the next year. On March 17, 1926, the Indiana Department of Conservation negotiated for eighty acres of land from Latta Hershey in Jamestown Township, for \$3,200

and twenty-eight acres from John W. Orndorf in Pleasant Township for \$5,000.00, which was added to the new Park, making a total of over 650 acres in the Park.

These negotiations were conducted by a Mr. Wilson, one of the Commissioners for the Department, and he stated that the Department had in mind the construction of a channel from Lake James to Failing Lake, which was on the land purchased from Hershey, and which is now known as Lake Lonidaw, with fish ponds between Failing Lake and Lake James to establish a fish hatchery to supply fish for this territory. The purchase of this land brought the State holdings to State Road No. 13, (now U.S. Numbered road 27.) Land purchased from Mr. Orndorf included all the Lone Tree Point peninsula except the shore line lots, owned by private individuals.

On March 23, 1926, Colonel Lieber, and his assistant Capt. Sauers, in company with Maurice McClew and E. S. Croxton, made a personal survey of all lands now owned by the Indiana Department of Conservation, and stated that work on the park, in their opinion, should begin at once, making this Park one of the most popular recreational centers in the West. It was the opinion that work should be started right away on roads, drives and bathing beaches so that the Park might be formally open to the public by the first of June. With this in mind Mr. Lieber appointed a committee to help the Department in making proper arrangements for the celebration of this occasion as follows: Chairman, E. S. Croxton, R. E. Willis, Harvey Morley, A. C. Wood, Maurice McClew, Clyde C. Carlin, Prof. W. A. Fox, Ralph Patterson, Roy Rozell, Mrs. Frank B. Humphreys, Mrs. Harvey Morley, Mrs. L. C. Stiefel, Mrs. Wm. Shearer, Mrs. Raymond Luse, L. G. Brown, of Fremont, Carl Ransburg, of Pleasant Lake, Rev. John Humphreys, Wade Dally, of Fremont, Senator H. Lyle Shank, Mrs. B. B. Goodale, Mrs. J. A. Croxton, John B. Parsell, Mrs. Waldo Sheffer, Mrs. Guy Sanders, Frank G. Gilbert, Guy J. Shaughness, Orville Stevens, President E. D. Long and Mrs. F. W. Sheldon.

Mr. Lieber explained that the additional 107 acres added to the Park would bring its total area to 707 acres, making it the third largest park in Indiana at that time. The land secured from Mr. Hershey and Mr. Orndorf included three small lakes, the largest being Failing Lake, and they were to be used as a natural fish hatchery. Mr. Lieber stated that the swamps and low lands of the Park

were as desirable for conservation purposes of the Park as the hills and high land, and the natural beauty was not to be destroyed more than necessary for the convenience of the public. It was his opinion that the aquatic life was diminishing far too rapidly and through the means of the natural breeding ponds we would seek to check the inroads of civilization. Mr. Lieber stated that he was making this a personal survey to determine what was necessary in the development of the service area, that part of the Park which would absorb the people who would come to visit and enjoy. Hotel service was planned to be offered at prices to make it accessible to people of small means, with also a place for guests to camp and sleep, buy their supplies and build their camp fires.

Mr. Sauers stated that roads and facilities for handling crowds would get the attention of the Department. The property was  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile west of Road 13, now U.S. road 27. The new township road straight west gives access to about 100 cottages along the east shore of Lake James, which is a part of the State Park. The hotel (Potawatomi Inn) is located on the north shore of the first basin, commanding a beautiful view.

On April 7, 1926, Mr. Lieber announced that the Park Hotel would be ready for occupancy in the spring of 1927, built in two units costing \$3,500.00 each, one unit to be completed at that time, the second one later, each constructed of tile, purchased from the state penal farm, also of stucco, and of timber cut from the park property. The fire places and chimneys would be built from huge boulders scattered all over the park area. Heat would be from fireplaces in the lobby and the dining room, and by steam heat. This was the second lake Park in the Hoosier chain, the lake frontage being  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, furnishing ample facilities for all water sports and usages. This Park is so situated that it serves especially all northeastern Indiana, and is very popular with traffic entering Indiana from Ohio and Eastern States, on the way to Chicago and farther west, through Angola, Elkhart, South Bend, Michigan City and Gary. (This is reminiscent of our Central West Highway Association, which attempted to promote the T. A. G. Highway,—Toledo, Angola, Goshen, a forerunner of U. S. Twenty.)

Mr. Lieber stated that the best of service would be given at this park at low Hotel prices and other services, as it now is and always has been. On February 23, 1927, he announced the official title of

the park, as Pokagon State Park. The name Pokagon was the suggestion of Colonel Richard Lieber, State Conservation Commissioner. He had been told about Simon Pokagon by Maurice McClew, who had heard that famous Chief speak about the Potawatomis at Angola in August, 1894. Mr. Lieber was favorably impressed. Thereafter, at a meeting of the Steuben County Chamber of Commerce, (now the Angola Chamber of Commerce,) names for the park were suggested and discussed. Colonel Lieber asked Harvey W. Morley to suggest the name Pokagon, which the Colonel heartily endorsed. Mr. Morley made the motion, which Carl Ransburg of Pleasant Lake seconded, and the motion was carried enthusiastically. The minutes of that meeting also disclose that Frank B. Rowley, President of the Chamber, presided. In that period Hon. H. Lyle Shank was our State Senator. He introduced an Act before the Legislature, prepared by Maurice McClew, in cooperation with Raymond E. Willis, which was passed, and our local movement set in motion.

Mr. and Mrs. Werner Janku, with much experience in catering, leased the Hotel. They had wide acclaim and ability and guests were much pleased. (The 1954 lessees are Oscar and Joyce Pence, whose service has been so good that it is often difficult to obtain reservations, unless arranged for in advance.)

The paid admissions at Pokagon gain annually. In 1954 they were 166,668. On May 18, 1927 the Indiana Department of Conservation invited the Steuben County Chamber of Commerce to take charge of the formal opening, with Harvey Morley as the Publicity Chairman. The formal dedication took place June 19th. The main address on that occasion was by Governor Ed. Jackson, and another by Col. Lieber. Music was by the Fred Church Boys' Choir, of Ft. Wayne. The first public dinner was served in Potawatomi Inn May 27, 1927, at the annual dinner of the Lake James Cottagers Association. Hon. R. Earl Peters of Ft. Wayne acted as toastmaster, introducing the speakers, Mr. Lieber, Hon. L. W. Fairfield, and Mayor Orville Stevens. Jesse Pugh, the Rushville humorist delighted with several readings. The Indiana State Highway Commission was invited to this meeting as the guests of William Herschell, the Poet Laureate of Indiana, who chose to read "Ain't God Good to Indiana?"

At the gala day of celebration June 19, more than 2,000 people were present. A one o'clock dinner was served to more than 350 persons and many were



turned away. It is recalled that Mr. Bergman, Park Superintendent, had a pet deer which he played with, teaching it to chew tobacco. One day he plagued it by offering it a chew and then pulling it away several times. The enraged deer is said to have gored and stomped Mr. Bergman to death before attendants could prevent it. John A. Croxton was one of the early Park Superintendents, but whether or not he succeeded Mr. Bergman, who was a very popular man, is not known.

### County Parks

In accordance with an Act entitled "An Act concerning the Preparation and Adoption of plans for the Physical and Economic Development of Counties, providing for the appointment of County Planning Commissions and prescribing their Rights, Powers and Duties thereof in connection therewith," as passed by the General

Assembly and approved on March 12, 1936, the board of County Commissioners duly appointed such planning board on the 6th day of February, 1936.

The members consisted of: Clair Mallory, Commissioner; Don Gilbert, Surveyor; R. E. Willis, Member; H. W. Morley, Member; Joe Laird, Member; John Taylor, Member; Cary Snowberger, Advisory Member; C.D. Ernsberger, Advisory Member; Arthur Ruhl, Advisory Member; Merle Grabbill, Advisory Member.

The first meeting was held July 27, 1937, with members of the State Planning Board being present, at which time officers of the Board were elected and projects to be accomplished were discussed. Harvey W. Morley was elected President and Don Gilbert Secretary.

At regular subsequent meetings, ways and means were formulated for the establishment and





improvement of a County Park consisting of 50 acres abutting on the east shore of Crooked Lake, and a 300 foot frontage on the east shore of Clear Lake, which had been deeded to the County for park purposes.

Through the efforts of the planning board a petition was circulated and a fine county road established and constructed leading into Crooked Lake Park. It was built by WPA labor, and was designated by Donald Gilbert, Secretary of the Board, as the Harvey W. Morley Highway. The park was cleared of underbrush, roads were constructed, trees were planted, picnic stoves and tables were furnished, wells were driven, signs were put up, sanitation and a bathing beach provided.

The Clear Lake Park was improved by drives, picnic stoves and tables, signs, steps leading to the lake, and sanitation facilities were provided.

It is the opinion of the writer that this County Planning Board did do a wonderful job and that these two parks are a great asset to the County and have been used much by the Public. In this recreation-plus County of lakes, many more of the Parks should be established.

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## The Steuben County Park at Crooked Lake

This is one of the most popular spots in this Recreation-Plus county. It was established in 1937 by the Steuben County Planning Board, consisting of Harvey W. Morley, President; Don Gilbert, Secretary; Clair Mallory, Commission Member; John Taylor, R. E. Willis, and Joe Laird, Board Members; and C. D. Ernsberger, Arthur Ruhl, and Merle Grabill, Advisory Members. This Board secured the cooperation of the County Commissioners, and 50 acres of land from the county farm property, abutting on the shores of Crooked Lake, were set aside as Crooked Lake Park. Recently the Steuben County Commissioners set aside an additional ten acres of land to add to this park in anticipation of the growing public requirements. The heat wave in the summer of 1955 induced throngs of people to visit this park, which had been wisely instituted by the County Planning Commission. Scores of family reunions and meetings of other groups enjoy this fine park, with its excellent beach. The Lions Club, Rotary, and other Clubs make free use of the Park. The Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Four-H, and other groups of young people, the Jaycees and others, are

accommodated in the Park and adjoining beach. A bath house constructed by the Lions Club is a convenience of great value. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kaufman are caretakers. A good road leads into the park, and thousands of residents and visitors are happy that this affords them access to the lake front, which is usually cut off from the public by private ownership.

The partial views of park facilities are from files of the Angola newspapers, generously supplied for this History.



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## Sports and Athletics

By S. K. Yarman

In the Athletic History of Steuben County, Baseball has always held primary interest for summer recreation.

The first organized team appeared about 1895. Representing Angola, Joe Brokaw, a catcher was the star of this Club. Another outstanding player developed here a little later was John Somerlott, who played in several professional Leagues, finally becoming the regular first baseman for Washington D. C. in the American League.

In the winter of 1908 the author and Earle Moss organized the first Tri-State College Baseball Team. Uniforms were acquired and schedule was played with Hillsdale College, Defiance and Adrian Colleges, together with the County Clubs representing Orland, Hamilton, and Edon, Ohio.

Tri-State then, and during the next few years, had three outstanding pitchers: Sim Aldrich (now an Angola Dentist) Delbert Chase and Fred Langley, all of whom played professional ball later.

Steuben County's brightest era started in 1921 when John Somerlott and Willis Love organized a semi-professional league with Angola and adjacent County Seats. The outstanding player of this era was Charlie Gehringer who became Detroit's American League Club's second baseman, a position he filled for seventeen years, and one year was voted the American League's most valuable player.

Space will only permit mention of a few of the



outstanding players who helped develop the game. In Fremont, there was William Heller, Pitchers, Allen and Berry and Guy Bodgar who played in the Texas League several years. Orland had Leo Purdy, Fred Sanderson and an excellent pitcher, Jess Runser. At Hamilton there were three Gnagy boys, two Fee boys and two Reikards; Hank and Clarence. Hank was a star with the Angola League Team of 1921-25.

Angola High School and Tri-State College had their first basketball teams in the season of 1908-09, and they played a few games against each other. The next year each blossomed out with regular uniformed clubs playing regular schedules. Tri-State played adjacent colleges, such as Hillsdale, Albion, Defiance and Adrian and the better amateur clubs of Fort Wayne and South Bend.

One player who did the most to develop the game in this area was Callahan, a Tri-State student who had played with the famed N. W. Celts. In the three seasons he was here, he taught local boys scientific inside basketball. Since these first teams, Tri-State and Angola High school have held their own with the competition.

With the organization of the Indiana High School Athletic Association in 1910, all Steuben County High Schools have held their own in all forms of Athletic competition.

Two very good Golf Courses are available—The Lake James Course on the shore of Lake James and another at Clear Lake.

in Steuben County was set up in 1844. This record lists 2531 taxpayers, total valuation \$360,303.00, and tax \$7,583.07.

The large land holdings were split up as the population increased and the valuation increased with the development of the county.

Eventually someone recognized the opportunity for development on the shores of our beautiful lakes and in 1891 the first lake plat, called Lake-wood was established on the northeast shore of Clear Lake. From that time on the platting and development of Lake property increased until at the present time we have 10,055 platted lake lots in the county. This does not include the fractional acre plats bordering on the lake plats.

Table showing location by township, number of lots, valuation and tax of lake lots as set up on the county records March 1953:

Unit	Lake Lots	Valuation	Tax
Millgrove	812	\$ 185,250	\$ 4,260.75
Jamestown	1812	733,500	14,816.70
Clear Lake	1343	811,600	21,913.20
Pleasant	2680	1,393,390	42,080.00
Jackson	309	128,710	2,805.80
Salem	612	144,830	2,693.80
Steuben	245	110,850	2,749.08
Otsego	2242	532,070	11,386.30
	10055	\$4,040,200	\$102,705.70

This shows the valuation of the lake lots and improvements to be \$4,040,200 and the tax \$102,705.70.

The total value of the lands and improvements of Steuben County is \$17,620,110 and tax \$508,200.00. From these figures we find that the tax paid on the lake property amounts to approximately 20.2% of the total tax paid on real estate in the county. Tax on personal property was not considered in this report.

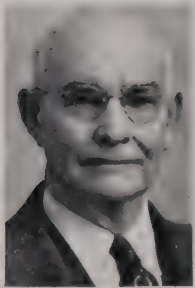


### Steuben County Lake Lots and Their Tax Contribution

*By Alvin C. Williams*

The first permanent record of taxes collected

## Medical and Affiliated Services



### Dentists and Other Professionals of Steuben County

By Dr. S. C. Wolfe

There are many annoying, unhealthful times in one's life when personal service to remove or alleviate some unhappy condition requires professional service. It is for these unfortunates that Dentists, Optometrists, Oculists, Opticians, Drugless Practitioners, join the Medical Fraternity in making life happier for those so afflicted.

Steuben County has been particularly fortunate in having a considerable number of able practitioners in these categories. Some whose names and service may have escaped us unintentionally and unfortunately in our research (for we have delved into the misty past), undoubtedly served the people of this county well. Among the Dentists were or are:

Riley Wickwire .. 1879	Dr. Galloway .....	1925
Gery Wickwire .....	Ned Chapin .....	1925
Bascom Black .....	(Fremont)	
J. E. Waugh .....	L. L. Wolfe .....	1928
Dr. Creditor .....	Wendell Aldrich ..	1942
Chas. Cole .....	Carl Ingalls .....	1930
Fred Turley .....	Lynn Reed .....	1930
Dr. Gilbert .....	(Fremont)	
S. C. Wolfe .....	Leif Steenerson ....	1935
Cary Snowberger ..	(Fremont)	
B. F. Wolfe .....	James Robinson ....	1937
(Fremont)	Dr. Bachelor .....	1904
Ben Chapin .....	(Hamilton)	
(Fremont)	Dr. Hull .....	1912
J. D. Becker .....	(Hamilton)	
Chas. Ewing .....	Fred Snowberger ..	1906
Alie Chadwick .....	(Hamilton)	
S. F. Aldrich .....		1924

### Drugless Practitioners, Osteopaths and Chiropractors.

Andrew Smith .....	Chas. Jacobs .....	1933
Geo. McEwen .....	Fred Grabs .....	1937

Elva McEwen .....	1928	Sam Keller .....	1948
H. B. Woods .....	1928	Roe Kirkpatrick ...	1948
Don Harpham .....	1931		

### Optometrists, Oculists, Opticians.

Frank Follett .....	1907	Wm. Lanske .....	1919
Frank Burt .....	1907	Don Harpham .....	1931
Clay Lemmon .....	1907	O. I. Laird .....	1931
Rob't Treuane .....	1907	J. H. Brinneman ..	1936
Mildred Treuane ..	1907	M. J. Blough .....	1939
H. R. Coil .....	1918	R. C. Snook .....	1949
John Kratz .....	1919		

### Veterinarians.

E. Walter .....	1901	Wm. Hills .....	1901
J. C. McNett .....	1901	Geo. Goodrich .....	1901
Eugene Wheeler ....	1901	Wm. Coover .....	1903
Geo. Reese .....	1901	H. M. Heckenlively	1903
Ward Woodhull ....	1901	Eldridge Butler ....	1904
Harry Stevens .....	1901	Wm. Carry .....	1904
Oliver Stayner .....	1901	B. F. McGrew .....	1904
James Merrite .....	1901	Geo. Benton .....	1927
Eleazer Luton .....	1901	H. E. Bryan .....	
Geo. Cogswell .....	1901	V. G. Hornbacker ..	
Otto Ross .....	1901		

### Podiatrists

Robert Kolb .....	
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### Steuben County Nurses

By June O'Brien

With the exception of a very few, most nurses listed in this history were born elsewhere and later made their homes in Steuben County. We are fortunate in having nurses with experience and training in special areas among our roster of Registered Nurses. For example, we have Industrial, Surgical, Public Health, Psychiatric, Obstetric, Supervisor, and Administrators among our specially trained Nurses.

To become a Registered Nurse, a girl must be a graduate of High School, in good standing, and



have completed three years of nurses training at a hospital or university nursing school. After graduation from nurses training, each nurse is required to pass the State Board Examination on Nursing before practicing nursing. Thus the term, "Registered Nurse."

Mrs. Myra Barr of Hamilton is the oldest living registered nurse in the County. Two of her girls followed in nursing and are now active in the County.

Most Mothers are Nurses. Thus many women who have served as practical nurses in the home over a period of years, have through necessity not been listed.

### Registered Nurses in Steuben County

Mrs. Jacquetta Cleckey Steele

407 W. Felicity St.  
Angola, Indiana.

Born in the East and moved to Steuben County in 1937. Graduated

from Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D. C. in 1930. Received R. N. Did both private duty and Supervisory work at this Hospital. Served as night Superintendent at Hospital in Sunbury, Pa. from 1934-1937. Has lived in Steuben County 17 years and works voluntarily with Blood Unit of Red Cross. She served as Executive Secretary of the Steuben County T. B. Assoc. of 1940-41.

Mrs. Helen Glover Creel,

R. #2

Angola, Indiana.

Born in Williams, Indiana, and came to Steuben County in 1935. Graduated

from Ryburn Memorial Hospital, Ottawa, Illinois, in 1932. Received R. N. At this Hospital she did private duty nursing. Later worked in Dr. R. L. Wade's office in Coldwater, Michigan. Registered in State of Michigan. Locally serves voluntarily with Red Cross Nursing.

Mrs. Winford Phillips,

Hamilton, Indiana.

Graduate of Lutheran Hospital in 1925. Registered in Indiana. Private duty and Public Health in Fort Wayne. Private duty in Steuben County. Now employed at Souder Hospital in Auburn, part time.

Mrs. Ellen Cochran  
Pleasant Lake, Indiana.

Graduate Reide Memorial, Richmond, Indiana, 1941. Registered in Indiana. Post Graduate in Industrial Nursing. General Duty and Industrial

after graduation. Now works at Sacred Heart, Garrett, Indiana.

Mrs. Nancy Hanna

Hamilton, Indiana.

Graduate of Methodist Hospital in Fort Wayne,

Indiana, in 1951. Registered in Indiana. Was employed at Bluffton Clinic. Also worked at Elmhurst Hospital, Angola. Now employed part time at Souder Hospital, Auburn.

Mrs. Charlotte Turrill Fee,

Hamilton, Indiana.

Born in DeKalb County and makes home permanently in Steuben. Graduate of Harper Hospital, Detroit, Michigan, in 1945. Registered in Indiana. Nursed 1 year at Harper Hospital. Did private duty nursing in Valparaiso, Indiana, and Fort Wayne, Indiana. Worked in Dr. Alford's office, Hamilton, as office nurse for 1½ years. Serves with the Red Cross locally as volunteer nurse.

June Eckman O'Brien  
Fremont, Indiana.

Graduate of Indiana University School for Nurses, Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1946. Registered Nurse in Indiana and Michigan. Advanced Public Health Nursing at Indiana University. Member American Nurses Association and Indiana Nurses Association. Chairman of Public Health Section, N.E. District, Indiana State Nurses Association. Served as Surgical Nurse 1 year at Hudson, Michigan, and as Steuben County Nurse for 6 years. Works as Red Cross Nurse and Instructor.

Mrs. Lola Miller Moeller

Fremont, Indiana.

Graduate of Hurley Hospital, Flint, Michigan, in 1934. Registered in Michigan. Came to Steuben County in 1946 from Michigan. Served as Staff Nurse at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and 5 years as Industrial Nurse at Fisher Body Hospital, Flint, Michigan. Does Private Duty Nursing at Elmhurst and Cameron Hospitals. Now relief general duty nursing at Coldwater Hospital. Serves locally with Red Cross as volunteer nurse and Instructor. Chairman of Red Cross Nursing Service.

Mrs. Gladys Donham Seaton  
Ashley, Indiana.

Graduate of Wilborn-Walker Hospital, Evansville, Indiana, in 1935. Registered in Indiana. Born in Spencer County, Indiana, and came to Steuben County in 1950. Served as office nurse in Evansville, Indiana, and did general duty nursing at St.

Luke's Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio, 1936-1942. Now assists husband in printing business.

Dorothy Boner Kistler

Hudson, Indiana.

Born in Mishawaka, Indiana. Came to Steuben

County in 1939. Graduate of St. Joseph Hospital in South Bend, 1935. Registered in Indiana. Served as general duty nurse in South Bend, Indiana, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Also Surgical and Emergency Room Nurse. Serves locally with Red Cross on Blood Unit and as Instructor. Assists husband with Kistler Funeral Home.

Laurinda Libey

Pleasant Lake, Indiana.

Graduate of Ball Memorial Hospital, 1954. R. N. and B. S.

Iris Ann Shaeffer

Fremont, Indiana.

Graduate of Ball Memorial Hospital, 1954. R. N.

Marilyn Weiss

Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of Ball Memorial Hospital, 1954. R. N.

Bessie Cottrell

Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of Lutheran Hospital Training School.

Served in the U. S. and overseas in World War I as Red Cross Nurse. Since 1931, except for five years, has spent all her time as Hospital Superintendent in Steuben County. She is Administrator of the Elmhurst Hospital, Inc., which was founded by Dr. L. L. Eberhart in 1947.

Mary Schoun

R. R. 1

Ray, Indiana.

Born in Brookfield, Illinois, and came to Steuben County, May, 1954.

Graduate of Hillsdale San. and Hospital, Hillsdale, Illinois, in 1953. Registered in Illinois and Michigan. Did general duty and public health nursing. Member of Public Health Nurses Association. Now on staff nursing at Elmhurst Hospital.

Mrs. Virginia Reddin Stearns

320 S. Superior St.

Angola, Ind.

Born in Henry County, Ohio, and came to Steuben County in 1953.

Graduate of Toledo Hospital School of Nursing, Toledo, Ohio, in 1944. Registered in Ohio and In-

diana. Has done general duty nursing in Fostoria, Ohio, and at Elmhurst Hospital in Angola, Indiana.

Mrs. Cecila Miklovish Hanson

617 E. Randolph St.

Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of St. Mary's College of Nursing, Grand Rapids, Michigan,

in 1939. Registered in Indiana and Michigan. Graduate of School of Medical Air Evacuation in 1945. Served in U. S. Air Force Nurse Corps in U. S. and overseas during World War II. Came to Steuben County in 1953 from Michigan.

Mrs. Dorothy Huddleston Hamer,

607 S. Wayne St.

Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of Jefferson-Hillman Hospital, Birmingham, Alabama, in

1953. Registered in Alabama. Advanced study in Tuberculosis Nursing and at University of Alabama in Sciences. Belongs to Alabama Nurses Association. Came to Steuben County from Alabama in 1954. Now employed at Elmhurst Hospital.

Mrs. Marijane Stolz Deller

416 S. College St.

Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of Henry Ford School of Nursing and Hygiene, Detroit,

Michigan, 1946. Registered in Indiana and Michigan. B. S. degree from Valparaiso University. General duty nursing at Valparaiso, Indiana. Now employed at Elmhurst Hospital in Angola, Indiana. Came to Steuben County in 1952 from Valparaiso, Indiana.

Mrs. Tevila Lautzenhisser Shultz

R. R. #1

Hamilton, Indiana.

Graduate of Methodist Hospital School of Nursing, Indianapolis, Indi-

ana, 1951. Registered in Indiana and Michigan. General Duty Nursing at St. Joseph Hospital, Mt. Clemens, Michigan, and at Beyer Memorial Hospital, Ypsilanti, Michigan. Now employed as general duty nurse at Elmhurst Hospital. Serves locally as Red Cross Nurse. Native of Steuben County.

Carol Van Dup

616 E. Broad

Angola, Ind.

Came from Michigan to Steuben County. Graduate of Hackley Hospital

School of Nursing, Muskegon, Michigan, 1952. Registered in Michigan. Employed at Cameron Hospital.



Betty Ann Clark  
315 South West St. Graduate of Crouse  
Angola, Indiana. Irving Hospital, Syracuse, New York, 1951.

Registered in N. Y. Employed in N. Y. and La-grange Hospital as general duty nurse on medical, surgical, and pediatric wards. Employed as general duty nurse at Cameron Hospital.

Jean Richardson  
607A Victory Drive Graduate of Mary Flel-  
Angola, Indiana. cker Hospital School of  
Nursing, Burlington, Vt.,  
September 1952. Registered in New York. Had nursing in Vermont and New York Hospitals. Now employed at Cameron Hospital.

Sharon Lynd Alfieri  
621½ E. Gilmore St. Graduate of Wyoming  
Angola, Indiana. County Community Hos-  
pital in 1953. Registered  
in N. Y. Now employed in medical and surgical ward at Cameron Hospital. Came from N. Y. to Steuben County.

Corrine Gerry Rowand  
Angola, Indiana. Graduate of Hartford  
Hospital School of Nurs-  
ing in 1946. Registered in Connecticut, N. Y., and Territory of Hawaii. Did general duty nursing before coming to Cameron Hospital as general duty nurse.

Ruth Cox Ryan  
200 E. Stocker St. Graduate of Seattle  
Angola, Indiana. University School of  
Nursing, Providence Di-  
vision, in 1952. Registered in Washington. Did Sur-  
gical Nursing in Washington, before coming to  
Cameron Hospital. Came to Steuben County from  
Oregon.

Henrietta Barr Ruppel  
Hamilton, Indiana. Graduate of Methodist  
Hospital School of Nurs-  
ing, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1933. Post graduate  
courses in obstetrics, Chicago Lying-in of Univer-  
sity of Chicago 1939. Private and general duty and  
office nursing. Now employed at Elmhurst Hos-  
pital.

Myra A. Cary Barr  
Hamilton, Indiana. Graduate of Epworth  
Hospital School of Nurs-  
ing, South Bend, Indiana, 1901, now known as Me-

morial Hospital, South Bend, Indiana. She was  
one of the first graduates of this school and in 1951  
the school helped this class celebrate their golden  
jubilee.

Grace Tietz Mason  
729 W. Park Ave. Graduate of Reading  
Angola, Indiana. Hospital, Reading, Pa.,  
1949. Registered in Penn-  
sylvania and Ohio. Has done general duty nurs-  
ing in Pa. and Ohio. Now employed at Cameron  
Hospital. Came to Steuben County from Pennsyl-  
vania.

Suzanne Esenwein  
Apt. 203A. So. John St. Graduate of Bronson  
Angola, Indiana. Methodist Hospital,  
Kalamazoo, Michigan,  
1951. Registered in Indiana and Michigan. Served  
as general duty and private duty nurse in Tenn.  
and Elkhart, Indiana. Now employed at Cameron  
Hospital as general duty nurse.

Marguerite E. Barr  
Hamilton, Indiana. Graduate of Methodist  
Hospital School of Nurs-  
ing, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1937. Post graduate  
course in Obstetrics at Chicago Lying-in of the  
University of Chicago, 1939. Did private and gen-  
eral duty nursing, also Supervisory and office  
nursing. Presently employed at Dr. Crum's office,  
Angola.

Irene Scoville Kenyon  
200 N. Washington St. Graduate of Cleveland  
Angola, Indiana. City Hospital in 1930.  
Registered in Ohio and  
Indiana. Advanced Prof. training at Indiana Uni-  
versity and Western Reserve. Has served as Head  
Nurse, Supervising Nurse, and general duty in  
Illinois, Ohio, and Ft. Wayne. Serves as Red Cross  
nurse locally. Works at Cameron Hosp.

Elsie J. Brown  
306 E. Maumee St. Graduate of Lutheran  
Angola, Indiana. Hospital School of Nurs-  
ing, 1951. Post graduate  
work in Psychiatry. Registered in Illinois and  
Washington. Has nursed as Head Nurse in Psychi-  
atric Hospitals in Washington. Now employed at  
Cameron Hospital in Angola, Indiana.

Mrs. Pauline Annie Miller  
306 C. Victory Lane  
Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital, London, Ontario, 1948. Registered

in Ontario, Canada. Has served as surgical and general duty nurse in Canada. Now employed at Cameron Hospital.

Daisy P. McAllister

Cameron Hospital  
Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1912. Registered in

Indiana and Ohio. Has served as Industrial and Public Health Nurse. Also night supervisor at Methodist Hospital, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Also did private duty nursing. In 1936 she came to Cameron Hospital as Superintendent and with the exception of six years, when she owned and operated her own Hospital, has been in Angola.

Madalyn Glasgow Coyle

Helmer, Indiana.

Graduate of Grant Hospital, Chicago, Illinois, 1938. Registered in Illinois. Post graduate

work in Social Work and Clinical Nursing, Cook County Hospital, Chicago, Illinois. Practiced nursing in Chicago in general duty, Private Duty, and Clinical Nursing.

Ida Huppert Steenerson

113 N. Powers St.  
Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of Indiana University School of Nursing, Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1927. Post graduate course Maternity

Center, New York City. A. B. Degree, Indiana University. Registered in Indiana. Nursed in private duty and served on Indianapolis Public Health Staff for eight years as Maternity Supervisor. Donates time to Red Cross Nursing and is Board Member in local TB Assoc.

Luzetta M. Swantusch

R. #3  
Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of South Shore Hospital in 1935. Registered in Indiana

and Illinois. Advanced study at Baylor University. Post Graduate in Hospital Administration and Public Health Service. Nursed in Chicago, Texas, Allen County, DeKalb County, and Steuben County. Gives time to Community Nursing Service.

Lauretta Boehm Abrahamer

Crooked Lake  
Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of Methodist School of Nursing, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1948.

Registered in Indiana and Florida. Active in nurs-

ing in Angola, Fort Wayne, Florida, Texas, and Pennsylvania.

Eileen M. Fulton

E. Mill St.

Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of Memorial

School of Nursing, South Bend, Indiana, in 1948.

Registered in Indiana. Worked as general duty nurse at Elmhurst Hospital in 1948-49. Gives time to Red Cross Nursing Service.

Alberta Rowe

Pleasant Lake, Indiana.

Graduate of Fort Wayne Methodist Hos-

pital. Advanced study in Supervision. Registered in state of Indiana. Has nursed in Muncie, Fort Wayne, and California.

Mildred Wolf Everitt

731 W. Park St.

Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, South Bend, Indiana,

in 1947. Registered in Indiana. Nursed at Garrett, Sanders and Souder Hospitals in Auburn, and is now employed at the Elmhurst Hospital in Angola, doing private duty and surgical work.

Cecilia Fulton Heath

Box 266

Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of St. Elizabeth Hospital, Chicago, Illinois, in 1924. Advanced

study in Contagious Diseases. Registered in Illinois and Indiana. Employed in Chicago and Angola Hospitals. Donates nursing service to Red Cross locally.

Ada Crone Sibert

R. #4, Angola, Indiana.

Graduate of Ravens-

wood Hospital School of Nursing, Chicago, Illinois, in 1941. Registered in Indiana and Illinois. Nursed in Chicago and was in the Navy during World War II. Private duty at Elmhurst and Cameron, and general duty at Cameron Hospital.

Jane Chapin

Fremont, Indiana.

Graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing, Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1943. Registered in Indiana, Michigan, and

California. Nursing service in Army Nurses Corps in 1944-1946. Also employed at Coldwater Hospital, Coldwater, Michigan, Elmhurst Hospital, and Veterans Administration Hospital, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Long Beach, California. Belongs to



American Nurses Association, California Nurses Association, and Red Cross.

Katherine Ackerman Kruse

Penn Park Graduate of Indianapolis City Hospital, 1939.

A. B. degree in Sociology, Indiana University. Registered in Indiana and Florida, Nursed in Kendallville, Auburn, Florida, and Fort Wayne in areas of general duty, private duty, and public health.

Geneva Edwards Hippensteele

Fremont, Indiana. Graduate of Methodist Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1933. Registered in Indiana. Did private duty nursing in Indianapolis and later office nursing.

Lorenza Choquette McMurray

Fremont, Indiana. Graduate of Mercy Hospital, Jackson, Michigan, in 1934. Registered in Michigan. Employed at Coldwater Hospital. Has nursed previously in Muskegon, Michigan. Donates service to Red Cross.

#### Practical Nurses

Gertrude Moor

411½ E. Maumee St. 13 years of practical nursing at Cameron Hospital, Angola, Indiana.

Bernadine Snyder

411½ E. Maumee St. 23 years in practical nursing. Employed at Cameron Hospital at present. Has done practical nursing in homes, also.

Dorothy Scott

R. #2 Started working at Cameron Hospital in Angola, Indiana, in 1928. Has worked periodically since that time as a practical nurse.

Luella Granquist

205 E. Gale St. Has done practical nursing for 17 years at Sanders Hospital, Auburn, Indiana, Irene Byron Hospital at Ft. Wayne, and Cameron Hospital at Angola, Indiana.

Lois Jean Deller (Mrs. Don)

R. #4 Has been employed at Cameron Hospital and is now in fourth year. Had Instructors course in first aid and taught a class.

Mrs. Fred Smith  
Angola, Indiana.

Worked at Cameron Hospital at Angola, Ind.

Mrs. A. E. Scotten  
Hudson, Indiana.

Mrs. Viola Gould  
Fremont, Indiana.

Wava Carpenter  
Angola, Indiana.

Helen Devine  
Angola, Indiana.

Maxine Stroh

Pleasant Lake, Indiana. Two years training at Methodist Hospital in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Employed at Cameron Hospital for 2 years.

#### Nurses Aides

Glenda Sue Petty

R. #1 Employed at Elmhurst Hospital.  
Fremont, Indiana.

Marie Porter

R. #4 Did practical nursing in homes. Presently employed at Elmhurst Hospital.  
Angola, Indiana.

Glida Wisner

R. #4. Presently employed at Elmhurst Hospital.  
Angola, Indiana.

Jo Ann Taylor

512 N. Wayne St. Worked in Obstetrics 1 year and took Home Nursing and Nurses Aide Training. Employed at Cameron Hospital.  
Angola, Indiana.

Ireta Sawvel

R. #1 2½ years Nurses Aide Course. Employed at Ft. Wayne Methodist Hospital in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Now employed at Cameron Hospital in Angola, Indiana.  
Hamilton, Indiana.

Donna Thomas

R. #1 Employed at Cameron Hospital. Had 10 months training at Toledo Hospital School of Nursing.  
Edon, Ohio.

Virginia Parsons

R. #1 Medical Librarian for 5 years. Now employed at Cameron Hospital, Angola, Indiana.  
Montgomery, Michigan.

**Medical Secretaries**

Ruth Pauline Critchlow Cady  
302 B Victory Lane      Came from N. Y. to  
Angola, Indiana.      Steuben County in 1953.  
Is a graduate of Roches-  
ter Business Institute in 1953.

**X-Ray Technicians**

Mrs. Marlene Leonhart Funk  
600½ S. Wayne St.      Graduate of Elkhart  
Angola, Indiana.      General Hospital School  
of X-ray, Elkhart, Indi-  
ana, 1953. Employed at Elmhurst Hospital.

**Laboratory Technician**

Kaye Valetta Lutz Benne  
Elmhurst Hospital      Came to Steuben  
Angola, Indiana.      County from Florida in  
1953. Graduate of Grad-  
wahl School for Laboratory Technicians in 1952.  
Employed at Elmhurst Hospital.

**Steuben County Nursing Homes**

Angola Nursing Home  
North Wayne St.      Home was started by  
Angola, Indiana.      Olive Guilford and  
daughter, Ruth Mason  
Libey. After 1 year and 8 months, Mrs. Libey took  
over full operation of the home. Mrs. Guilford is  
a licensed practical nurse. At present time load is  
limited to 10 beds for women. However, there is  
building going on now and the expansion is ex-  
pected to provide for 6 more beds, for men pa-  
tients. Any type of sickness is accepted by this  
home that doesn't necessitate hospitalization. The  
home is approved by the State Department of  
Public Welfare. The staff at present consists of  
the following: Mrs. Guilford, Licensed Consultant  
Practical Nurse, Miss Ethel Miller, Practical Nurse,  
Mrs. Myrtle Jewell, Practical Nurse, Florence  
Howland, Practical Nurse, and Patricia Sawvel,  
Practical Nurse.

Edith's Nursing Home  
116 N. Powers St.      Nursing Home was  
Angola, Indiana.      started by Edith Smith,  
a practical nurse, in 1949.

At that time the following practical nurses were  
employed by Edith's Nursing Home: Priscilla Ken-  
ter, Elsie Castner, Lois Adams, and Myrtle Jewell.  
In 1954 Lois Adams leased the home from Edith  
Smith and operates it full time. Bed capacity is 14  
for both men and women. Any type of patient ill-  
ness is accepted. All patients are supervised medi-  
cally. This home is approved by State Department

of Public Welfare. The staff at present consists of:  
Mrs. Odea Waite, Opal Warren, and Peggy Benson.

**Steuben County Public Health Nursing Service**

The nursing service of Steuben County was  
first sponsored by the Steuben County Tubercu-  
losis Association in 1926. At this time Mrs. Mc-  
Intyre and later Mrs. Anna Sims were employed.  
Most of their time was given to the Tuberculosis  
work. Later, the program was widened to Com-  
munity Nursing work. Miss Ruth Smith was em-  
ployed partly by the Indiana State Board of Health  
and the local Tuberculosis Society. The purpose  
of this employment was to demonstrate to Steuben  
County the benefit of a full time County Health  
Nurse, so that appropriation for her salary would  
come entirely from County funds.

Mrs. Monica Underwood followed Miss Smith in  
1941. In 1942 Miss Goshorn was employed full time  
by Steuben County. Miss Goshorn stayed in the  
County several years and conducted a generalized  
nursing service. Her program was nursing service  
to the schools, pre-school children, tuberculosis  
patients, crippled children, maternity, control of  
communicable diseases, adults with nursing prob-  
lems, and cooperation with all agencies official and  
voluntary, in matters concerning good health.

After a lapse of a few years without a nurse, the  
nursing service was resumed in 1949 by June  
O'Brien, R. N., who has special training in public  
health. The above nursing services are continued  
with nursing service available to any person in the  
county. Because of the amount of work entailed in  
such a wide program, one nurse must limit the  
actual nursing service to emergency situations and  
teaching those in the home nursing techniques.  
All of the Steuben County Public Health Program  
is approved by the Steuben County Medical So-  
ciety and Health Officers.

**Steuben County Welfare**

*By Mrs. Mary Burns*

**Red Cross in Steuben County**

On April 11, 1917, Mrs. Winifred Rose Waugh  
opened correspondence with the Central Division



of the American Red Cross, located in Chicago, with a view to organizing a Red Cross chapter in Steuben County. It was ascertained that in order to do this, the signatures of at least ten representative persons of the community should accompany a petition asking for authority to organize. Accordingly, on Sunday afternoon, May 6, 1917, a meeting was called at the Angola Public Library for the purpose of taking the preliminary steps necessary for such an organization.

Fred M. Starr, a member of the Tri-State College faculty, was elected as temporary chairman, and Mrs. Waugh as secretary. A petition was signed asking that a Red Cross chapter be organized in Angola, Indiana, with jurisdiction to extend over the entire county. The following people signed the petition and made application for membership to the organization, thus becoming the charter members of the Steuben County Chapter of the American Red Cross: Frank E. Burt, R. J. Carpenter, O. Carver, Mrs. O. Carver, C. H. Douglass, J. A. Croxton, A. E. Elston, A. Frysinger, Mrs. F. B. Humphreys, Mrs. Matilda Johnson, Mrs. Milla G. Lane, E. C. Kolb, H. W. Morley, Melvin W. Kratz, Charles Masterson, Maurice McClew, John B. Parsell, W. C. Patterson, Mrs. W. C. Patterson, Paul Preston, Fred M. Starr, Mrs. Fred M. Starr, Mrs. Elizabeth J. McConnell Sheldon, L. C. Stiefel, Mrs. Edith K. Stiefel, Dennis Triplett, Winifred R. Waugh, Raymond E. Willis, and Edward Williamson.

On May 19, 1917, a meeting was called at the Sorosis Club room and the following persons were elected: Chairman, Thomas Owens; Vice-Chairman, H. Lyle Shank; Treasurer, Claude Douglass; and Secretary, Miss Allee Leininger.

The following are the names of persons serving as officers and chairmen of the various committees with dates of incumbency in office. This came from a record dated November 13, 1919.

#### Chapter Chairmen

Thomas Owens, produce merchant, May 1917 to October, 1917.

Paul Preston, minister of the Christian Church, October, 1917, to November, 1917.

Willis Fox, Professor at Tri-State College, November, 1917, to March, 1918

Thomas J. Creel, physician, March, 1918, to November, 1919.

#### Vice-Chairmen

H. Lyle Shank, county school superintendent, May, 1917, to October, 1917.

Mrs. Mary Perfect, October, 1917, to November, 1917.

#### Secretaries

Miss Allee Leininger, bookkeeper, May, 1917, to February, 1918.

Mrs. Ella Mitchell, February, 1918, to November, 1918.

Mrs. L. B. Clark, November, 1918, continuous for many years.

#### Treasurer

Claude Douglass, bank cashier, May, 1917—

#### War Fund Drive Managers

Frank Dole, ex-county treasurer, 1917.

Lawrence N. Klink, undertaker, 1918.

#### Publicity

H. W. Morley, editor and publisher of Angola Herald, 1917.

Later Mr. Morley served as County Chairman for many years with Mrs. L. B. Clark as Secretary.

#### Press Chairman

Winifred R. Waugh, librarian at Tri-State College.

#### First Aid

Mary T. Ritter, physician, 1917.

Mrs. Matilda Johnson, 1918.

#### Hospital Supplies

Mrs. L. B. Clark, 1917.

Mrs. D. H. Reese, 1918.

#### Supplies for Fighting Men

Mrs. Mabel Markham, 1917.

Mrs. Edna Hammond, 1917.

Mrs. Fred Emerson, 1918.

Mrs. John Butz, 1918.

#### Surgical Dressings

Mrs. W. C. Patterson, 1917.

Mrs. Edna Wood Creel, 1918.

#### Civilian Relief

Mrs. Elizabeth J. Sheldon, 1917.

Mr. Maurice McClew, attorney, 1919.

Mrs. L. B. Clark, 1919.

## Branch Chairmen Steuben County

Fremont .....	Dr. R. L. Wade, 1917
Flint .....	Grant Shank, 1917
Otsego .....	Mose Wolff, 1917
Millgrove .....	J. K. Wyant, 1917
Helmer .....	Clara Pray, 1918
Salem Center .....	Blanche Ammerman, 1918
Hudson .....	Mrs. John Shumaker, 1918
Jamestown .....	Fred Terry, 1918
S. Clear Lake .....	Warren Throop, 1918

On Monday, June 18, 1917, the Steuben Republican and Angola Herald published Red Cross extras that were placed in every home in the county. These issues carried an appeal for raising the first war fund, the quota being \$5500. This drive, under the management of Frank Dole, went over the top with nearly twice that amount—\$10,725. The second drive, under the management of J. O. Rose, resulted in \$12,000.

In January of 1918, in order to raise adequate funds to promote Red Cross activities in the county, it was decided to hold a series of auctions. Frank Adams, of Pleasant township, was appointed manager. Messrs. Frank Adams, J. B. Hayward, A. M. Grady, and Alpha Penland donated their services and cried the sales. A total of \$8112.77 was gained.

The women of the county commenced knitting in October of 1917 and continued whenever yarn was available until February of 1919. The eldest woman engaged in this enterprise was Mrs. Sarah Sewell, of Angola, age 84 years.

Aided by loyal and patriotic men and women of the county these early Red Cross officers successfully piloted the local organization through the maelstrom of war and into the calm of peace. Since those early days in the organization there have been many efficient leaders to keep the chapter active. There are too many to mention all in this chapter, and, since only a few records can be found concerning the organization during these years, it is generally supposed the chapter was more or less inactive with the exception of the yearly fund drive. G. O. Simpson, H. W. Morley, Orville Stevens, and Mrs. Dean Cline served the Chapter for a number of years, as chairmen.

Again the chapter became very active during World War II. C. H. Elliott was chairman and Mrs. C. R. Bratton, secretary, all during the war. Mrs. Lawrence Klink was appointed first Home Serv-

ice worker, in 1941. She was assisted by Mrs. L. P. Cox. Mrs. I. E. King was chairman of the Production Unit with Mrs. Merle Tucker in charge of surgical dressings, and Mrs. Chester Tuttle in charge of knitting. During 1942, '43, and '44, nearly 600,000 surgical dressings and 3000 knitted garments were shipped from the county. Following are names of persons serving as chairmen of the various committees who gave untiring service during these war years:

Disaster Preparedness .....	Joseph H. Weicht, 1942
	William Booth, 1943-45
Motor Corps .....	Mrs. Carl Redding, 1942-45
Junior Red Cross .....	Willis Roberts, 1942-45
First Aid .....	John Glasgow, 1942-45
Home Nursing .....	Mrs. Russ Hershey, 1942-43
	Mrs. Harley Mann, 1944-45
Nutrition .....	Mrs. Dean Cline, 1942-45
Finance .....	Orville Stevens, 1942-45

Serving with Mr. Elliott and Mrs. Bratton as officers were Mrs. Kenton Emerson, vice-chairman, and Wade Libey as treasurer. Rev. John Borders, Henry Willis, and Wendell Jacobs, served the county as chairmen following these war years until 1950.

In October of 1950, plans were made for participation in the National Blood Program. Rolland J. Weaver, of Angola, was appointed as chairman of the blood program; Max White was named recruitment chairman, and Mrs. Eugene Maloy was put in charge of volunteer services.

## Officers for 1950-51 were:

Chairman .....	Mrs. Barton Arnold, Angola
Vice-Chairman .....	Russell Handy, Angola
Secretary ....	Mrs. Mark Sanders, Route #3, Angola
Treasurer .....	Robert Berlien, Angola

## Officers for 1951-52

Chairman .....	Russell Handy, Angola
Vice-Chairman .....	Mrs. Mark Sanders, Route #3, Angola
Secretary .....	Mrs. Floyd Clark, Hamilton
Treasurer .....	Robert Berlien, Angola

## Officers for 1952-53

Chairman .....	John Glasgow, Pleasant Lake
Vice-Chairman .....	Mrs. Mark Sanders
Secretary .....	Mrs. Barton Arnold
Treasurer .....	Robert Berlien

## Officers for 1953-54

Chairman .....	Dr. R. C. Snook, Angola
Vice-Chairman .....	Mrs. Mark Sanders



Secretary ..... Mrs. Dean Cline, Angola  
 Treasurer ..... Billy Sunday, Angola

Mrs. Faye Erwin was the first paid worker in our Steuben County chapter. She assumed her duties in October of 1945 and gave seven years of active service, maintaining the office in the Miller-Jones building. Mrs. Ray Miller and Miss Betty Thrush followed as executive secretaries, and Mrs. H. S. Osborne is serving in this capacity now. The office is located at the present time in the Jacob Insurance Service Offices.

In 1946 and 47 the chapter sponsored the training of Mrs. Mary Frahm, of Fremont, as a certified water safety instructor. In 1946 she trained a large class of swimmers at Clear Lake. In 1947 Mrs. Frahm centered her efforts with a large class at Pleasant Lake. John Glasgow was serving as chairman of First Aid and Water Safety. The first instructors' course was held in 1948. A series of Senior Life Saving classes was opened in July, 1950, with Howard Feldmann, a teacher in our school, as instructor. He is still teaching life saving classes each summer. Ralph Martin was named chairman of Water Safety in 1951, thus relieving Mr. Glasgow of part of his work.

Mr. John Glasgow was presented an award by the Chapter in 1950 in recognition of his years of service. At the present writing he is still serving as First Aid chairman for the County Chapter.

Mrs. Howard Feldmann for the past four summers has taught swimming classes to students at Lake James and Crooked Lake. Mrs. Jack Gaffin, Mrs. Merle Blough, and Mrs. Curt Rathburn have also been instructors to this age group ranging from seven years through high school.

It has been impossible to name all in our county who have given of their time and efforts. I have tried to name the leaders, and any omissions, I hope, will be pardoned.

#### **Steuben County Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc.**

The Steuben County Chapter for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc., was organized October 17, 1941. The officers elected were as follows:

Chairman: Harold Kelley  
 Vice-Chairman: W. R. Roberts  
 Treasurer: Ed Kolb  
 Executive-committee: Clyde Carlin, Ruth Smith,  
 Dr. W. H. Lane, and Nellie Henwood

Collections had been made in the county for the March of Dimes since 1939 but there was no official organization until 1941.

In 1944 Luther B. Mann succeeded Mr. Kelley as county chairman, and a secretary, Phyllis Goshorn, was added. These officers served until 1947. Following is a list of the officers for the succeeding years up to the present writing:

1947	
Chairman:	Wendell Dygert
Treasurer:	Paul Burns
Secretary:	Mrs. Don Chaddick
1949	
Treasurer:	Carlton Chase
1950	
Treasurer:	Paul Burns
1952	
Chairman:	Ross Wilkinson
Vice-Chairman:	Ted Chapman
Treasurer:	Carlton Chase
Exe-Committee:	Wayne B. Sidel—Dr. R. C. Snook
Medical Advisory Committee Chairman:	Dr. K. L. Kissinger

1954  
 Exe-Committee Chairman: Dr. R. C. Snook  
 (Where all four officers are not listed previous  
 officers carried over)

The totals raised in our county in the March of Dimes drives have increased from the \$16.90 collected in 1939 to nearly \$3000 collected in 1953. During the last few years much success has come from the mothers of our county who have participated in a "Mother's March," collecting funds at a designated time by going from house to house in the community.

To date there have been twenty-three families in our county helped from these collected funds since 1948.

#### **Steuben County Cancer Society**

The Steuben County Cancer Society was organized at a meeting at the Klink Funeral Home in February of 1948. Mrs. Harcourt Sheets was elected county chairman and served in that capacity until 1953. Mrs. Harry Klink was elected vice chairman, Miss Louise Kratz, secretary, and Heyman Wisner, treasurer. The branch chairmen of the organization appointed to serve in the townships of the county were as follows:

Otsego	Mrs. Clarence Fee
Millgrove	Mr. Robert Garvue succeeded by Mrs. Clyde Stewart
Clear Lake	Mrs. Mark Kauffman
Jackson	Mrs. Fred Mott
Pleasant	Mrs. Mark Sanders
Salem	Mrs. Ned Emerson
Richland	Mrs. Oscar Imhof
York	Mrs. Don Deller
Scott	Mrs. Herschel Cole
Fremont	Mrs. Leif Steenerson
Jamestown	Mrs. Robert Finicle
Steuben	Mrs. Clarence Harmon

Dr. Robert Barton, president of the Medical Society, served as advising physician. The county's quota for the first year was \$1100 and this amount was collected and exceeded. The organization did a great deal toward informing the residents of our county concerning this dread disease, and the possibilities of its cure. They showed many films at schools in the county where the necessary equipment was available. These meetings were always open to the public.

In 1953 Mrs. Imo (Louise Hetzler) Smith became county chairman and the county quota for that year was again exceeded. Mr. Al Bailey, manager of the Weatherhead Company, and assisted by Ed Williamson, Jr., was campaign director during that year's drive. The Campfire girls helped, as they have often in many welfare organization drives in a "tag-day" collection. The officers and board members for the year 1953 include Mrs. Harry Klink, vice chairman, Miss Louise Kratz, secretary, Heyman Wisner, treasurer, Mrs. June O'Brien, county nurse, Mrs. Henry Willis, Mrs. Paul Eble, Mrs. Lee Hirsch, Mrs. Paul Burns, Welcome Wagon hostess, and Dr. Knight Kissinger.

#### Steuben County Heart Committee

Mrs. Dudley Gleason, Jr., has served as county chairman for the Steuben County Heart Committee since 1946. Her work is done under the direction of the Northeastern Indiana Heart Foundation, Inc. Heyman Wisner serves as treasurer of the Committee. Up until 1953 the fund drives were organized and conducted by various civic and social groups in the county. The Questors Club and the Business and Professional Women's Organization did outstanding work in this capacity. Other groups assisted under their direction in house-to-house canvasses, and in placing the heart shaped containers throughout the county.

In 1953, funds were donated at parties given in homes of many leading citizens. These groups then visited the mobile "Heart Kitchen" which was parked on the Public Square.

A county-wide mobilization meeting was held in January of 1954 to prepare for the raising of funds. Mrs. Gleason presided at the meeting and plans were made for a personal appeal by letter throughout the county. Beta Sigma Tau, non-sectarian intercultural fraternity at Tri-State College, volunteered aid in the downtown collection. This was the first year that an all out program for the heart fund was put into action. Plans were made to place the names of any who contributed \$5 or over on an honor roll for the county. It was also stressed that individuals who had lost friends and relatives because of heart attacks could contribute to a memorial fund for these loved ones. Two such funds were established. One of these memorials was established in memory of the late Tillie Sheets, by Mrs. Wm. Waller, of Lake James, and the second in memory of the late Dr. L. L. Eberhart, by members of the Steuben County Farm Bureau.

#### Steuben County Tuberculosis Association, Inc.

A meeting was called on October 22, 1919, at the high school building, for the purpose of organizing the Steuben County Anti-Tuberculosis Society. The following officers were elected:

President	H. B. Allman, superintendent of the Angola School
1st Vice President	Dr. T. J. Creel
2nd Vice President	Mrs. Mamie Allison
Treasurer	Dr. Mary Ritter
Secretary	Miss Florence Parsell

Plans for the sale of Christmas seals were discussed at this first meeting and this has been a project of the Association each year since. In 1937 Steuben County chapter was awarded the Stanley Coulter cup for the largest increase in Christmas seal sales for the past three year period in counties of ten to twenty thousand population.

In November of 1924 Professor John Estrich was elected president and served the society in this capacity until he was succeeded by Powers Luse in 1932. Below is a list of the succeeding presidents and their respective years of service.

Mrs. R. J. Luse	1934
Mrs. J. W. Wyant	1935-36
Mrs. Dean Cline	1937



Dr. M. M. Crum	1937-43
Mr. John Estrich	1943-46
Dr. Knight L. Kissinger	1946-49
Dr. Donald G. Mason	1949-54

Mrs. Dean Cline	Mrs. Carl Strock
Mr. Willis Roberts	Mrs. Gordon Jacob
Mrs. Russ Hershey	Mrs. Ivor Covell
Mrs. Jeff Gundrum	Mrs. Lincoln Booth
Mrs. B. A. Blosser	Miss Grace Crain
Mrs. Floyd Carpenter	Mr. C. H. Elliott
Mrs. Paul Chasey	Mrs. Ollie Bassett
Mr. Carl Peachey	Mrs. Frank Strock
Mrs. Clayton McNaughton	Mrs. Harold Zimmer
Mrs. Howard Boomer-shine	Mrs. Oscar Taylor
Mrs. Earl Lemmon	Mr. Wendell Jacob
Mrs. Raymond Luse	Mrs. Lewis Parsell
Mrs. T. P. Charles	Mrs. Levi Dygert
Miss Maude Schovill	Mrs. P. H. Montgomery
Mrs. George Butler	Mrs. Harold Wicoff
Mrs. Leif Steenerson	Mrs. Wayne Sidel
	Mrs. Keith Oberst

The Association has done much health work in the county since its inception. It employed a county nurse, Mrs. McIntyre, in 1926, and has given its support to the succeeding county nurses: Mrs. Anna Sims, Miss Ruth Smith, Mrs. Monica Underwood, Miss Phyllis Goshorn, and Mrs. June O'Brien. The organization has carried out a program of case-finding through the patch test and mobile X-Ray unit, and makes arrangements for patients to be sent to sanitariums and other hospitals for care and examinations; has conducted classes in health education, paid expenses for tonsillectomies, dental and visual corrections, bought cod liver oil and other medication, purchased milk for undernourished children, and has done much toward helping crippled children of our county. These are only some of the many services the society has given our community. The work has been so extensive it would be impossible to recount all of it.

In 1936 plans were discussed for the tuberculin skin tests of the children of the county, but it was not until 1940 that the testing was actually started. It is now a regular service given through the association to the schools of our county.

Mrs. John Campbell was named as the first executive secretary of the association. She was appointed in 1938 and was the first to receive a small reimbursement for her services. She served until 1940 when Mrs. Kenneth Steele was appointed. In 1941 Mrs. Willa Erickson was appointed as executive secretary and is still serving. Mrs. T. P. Charles has served as recording secretary since 1941.

The services of the mobile X-Ray unit were first used in Steuben County in January of 1948. The following year more than 1900 persons in the county were x-rayed. This service is still being offered to the residents of our county each year.

The length of this chapter will not permit the naming of all who have given service through this association, but the following have given outstanding long-term service:

Mrs. Kenton Emerson	Mrs. Oscar Imhof
Miss Winifred Hathaway	Mrs. Carl Tuttle
	Mrs. Harley Cosper

### Welcome Wagon

I do not feel this chapter would be complete without mentioning our Welcome Wagon service. Welcome Wagon, here, as elsewhere, takes great pride in working with the organizations I have written about in this chapter. Hospitality is extended to families on the occasions of: the birth of a baby, sixteenth birthdays, engagement announcements, housewarmings, arrival of newcomers, and other special occasions. This gesture is an expression of congratulation or welcome from the civic and social welfare organizations of our county, as well as a group of public-spirited business men who wish to extend their personal greeting. These businesses are called sponsors of the service and they are to date as follows: Angola Chamber of Commerce, Angola Dress Shop, Brokaw Theatre, Gentry Photographic, Custom Cleaners (Ashley, Indiana), Jacob Insurance Service, Kiddie Korner, Maxton Chevrolet Sales, Rainbow Beauty Shop, Midwestern United Life Insurance Company, Rogers Drug Store, Saint's Friendly Service, Sanitary Diaper Service, Sheets Oil Co., Steuben Printing Company, Sunrise Dairy, Weicht Funeral Home, and Hamma Feed Supply.

Our first Angola hostess was Mrs. Imo Smith who had Mrs. Robert Baldwin and later Mrs. Don Chaddick as her assistants. After several months, in August of 1952, Mrs. Paul Burns became the official hostess and Mrs. Chaddick continued as assistant for nearly a year. Mrs. John Orlosky is the present assistant hostess.

# Transportation

## Our Highway Development

### *By County Surveyor Don Gilbert*

At Chillicothe, Ohio, in 1802, it became the task of a group of men to establish the boundary lines and a constitution for the government of the proposed new State of Ohio. As they were engaged in this work a frontiersman, clad in buckskins and carrying a long rifle, presented himself before them. He had come from the wilds of Lake Michigan and he warned the state makers that the maps they were considering were badly in error and that Lake Michigan extended much farther south than the maps would lead them to believe.

Their concern over this information was occasioned by the Ordinance passed by Congress in 1787 for the government of the Northwest Territory which ordained that the south three states of the Territory should extend no farther north than "an east and west line drawn through the southern bend or extreme of Lake Michigan."

The only maps available at that time showed Lake Michigan extending about as far south as the latitude of Monroe, Michigan, so until the frontiersman appeared the Ordinance Line seemed satisfactory. The committee naturally wanted Ohio to include as much territory as possible and in any event to include the south shore of Lake Erie and Maumee Bay, now the City of Toledo, at the west end thereof.

Since no one really knew whether the Ordinance Line would intersect Lake Erie north of the outlet of the Maumee River or would fall below Lake Erie entirely, they proceeded to insert into their boundary clause a proviso to the effect, that with the consent of Congress, the north line of the state should be a straight line from the southern extremity of Lake Michigan to the northeast cape of Maumee Bay.

The above proviso, to award Ohio and to deprive Michigan of land, set up the first boundary dispute in our locality and one which was not settled for thirty years during which time the Militia of both Ohio and Michigan Territory was led to the "Toledo Strip" in an effort to influence the Congress.

In August, 1816, Congress sent William Harris to survey the Ordinance Line, but Mr. Harris instead ran the Ohio Proviso Line and so reported to his superiors (this line runs across Steuben County and intersects the north line of Ohio adjacent to section 4 in York Township).

Meanwhile Indiana, which became a state in 1816, violated the Ordinance Line by providing that our north boundary should be "an east and west line drawn through a point 10 miles north of the southern extremity of Lake Michigan" (this line is the north line of Steuben County and the State of Indiana.)

The foregoing bits of history evidently established the precedent for all the many subsequent boundary line disputes calling for the service of a surveyor in our locality.

### **Our Present or Rectangular System of Surveys**

The Federal Government had established the present system of land subdivision and the surveyors had so marked it off in this state before deeds to the lands were given.

The present system of land subdivision was made a law in May, 1785. Briefly the plan is based on a series of co-ordinates parallel to intersecting north and south lines.

The north and south lines are called meridians and the east and west lines are called base lines. The First Principal Meridian west of Washington, D. C., is the east boundary of our county and of the State of Indiana. However our subdivisions are numbered from the Second Principal Meridian which passes a short distance west of South Bend. This Meridian and the Base Line for Indiana intersect in Orange County.

Lines were then run paralleling this intersection at six mile intervals, the east and west lines being called Town Lines and the north and south lines Range Lines, both are numbered and designated as north and south of the base line and the meridian. In Indiana there are 38 town lines north and 8 south of the base line with 15 Range Lines east and 15 Range Lines west of the Meridian.

The six mile squares formed as explained above



are called townships, which are then subdivided into 36 sections, each containing one square mile more or less. Since Meridians are north and south lines and converge at the poles of the earth, corrections were made every 4 Town Lines or every 24 miles where they start again with full six mile ranges. One of these corrections naturally fell on the north line of range 36 which is the township line between Steuben and Pleasant Townships and continues east and west across the County. Evidence of this correction is shown by the jogs, now reverse curves in the roads, crossing this line, and represent the convergence toward the north pole in north and south lines at 24 mile intervals.

The original Government surveyors in the early 19th century were confronted with an almost impossible task of running lines through the forests, swamps, and lakes that were encountered in our county, and naturally many over-runs and shortages were made in the length of the subdivision boundaries.

In subdividing the townships into 36 tracts, one mile square, called sections, the southeast corner of the township was the beginning point from which straight lines were run a distance of  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile on the north and west lines where  $\frac{1}{4}$  corners were established, the compass bearing was then corrected and another  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile was run to the section corners. The slight angles at  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile intervals on our roads running on the section lines are evidence of these corrections.

Shortages and over-runs were left in the west and north sections of the townships. These sections are called fractional sections.

The sections were left to local surveyors to subdivide by running straight lines from  $\frac{1}{4}$  corners north and south and from  $\frac{1}{4}$  corners east and west, thereby dividing the section into quarters of 160 acres each. These quarter sections were subdivided similar to the sections.

The township is designated by the number of its Town and Range Line and the sections numbered from the left to right and right to left beginning with number one at the northeast corner with number six at the northwest corner and number 36 at the southeast corner.

### **The History of Our County Public Roads**

The boundary lines for the first deeds to lands from the Federal Government were on the rectangular subdivisions of the sections. It therefore

followed that houses and roads were generally built on and along these straight lines. As the Township was the unit of Government intended by the State Constitution to serve the local communities it was charged with the maintenance of public roads. However the legal power to establish public roads was vested in the County Government. In the County Commissioners meeting held September, 1837, the first road petition, asking for the establishment of a public road, was presented according to law viewers consisting of E. V. Cummins, James P. Forbes and Gideon Ball, who were appointed to investigate the merits of the location and to certify their findings to the next subsequent meeting.

Upon the favorable report of the viewers this first legally established road began on the south line of section 13 in Steuben Township and extended northerly to a point  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile south of Angola. It is significant to note that the line adopted deviated from the line petitioned so as to avoid a swamp. The south mile of this road was vacated several years ago by a similar procedure in the Commissioners Court.

The above described establishment was for the right of way only and as such it was certified back to the Township Trustee as the township obligation. The township government consisting of a Trustee, Advisory Board and a Road Supervisor evidently decided the priority for and the extent of improvement of the roads.

The urgency for roads during this period of rapid settlement precluded anything but the necessary work on the right of way to make the roads passable most of the year. Evidence shows the use of log mats ("corduroys") over low ground and in natural drainage courses. Road taxes and poll taxes were worked out on the roads by the farmers with their teams and by men by hand labor.

Land owners fenced along the roads with split rail fences, which were ideal for causing the snow to drift on the roads. When snow drifts obstructed the roads it was customary and accepted procedure for road users and land owners to remove a panel of the fence and drive through the field until the snow went off in the spring.

The township owned equipment for the construction and maintenance of the roads, such as horse drawn graders, slip scrapers and hand tools. The spring "break up" often left the roads over

clay subsoil impassable except by horseback. As the road surface began to dry out in the spring the supervisor would call upon the farmers to put their teams on the graders, two teams abreast and one team out in front. These teams not having worked all winter seldom made up their minds to start or to pull at the same time. As a result broken equipment and harness made the operation very inefficient. Most roads had to rely on the sunshine and wind to dry the surface until the ruts in the mud could be straddled by buggies and wagons.

As the many miles of roads received some semblance of a grade and side drainage the more important ones were stabilized with a surface of gravel.

In 1905 and 1907 the State Legislature passed and amended what was known as the "Three Mile Road Law" whereby a road, meeting certain specified conditions, could be constructed by contract and the township bonded to pay the costs. In 1919 a "County Unit" road law was passed whereby the county could be bonded, similar to the township, but the road could be county wide in length. The Township Trustee was also by law empowered to construct sections of roads to meet certain specifications from township funds.

These laws coming with the advent of the motor vehicles created the means and the demands that made it possible for us to get year round roads as our county availed itself almost 100 percent of these provisions.

The 1905 law amended, provided for a county highway department to maintain all roads constructed under the above entitled laws. As the mileage of township roads was reduced the township road maintenance was reduced until in 1917 the position of township road supervisor was abolished and the township trustee was charged with the maintenance. It soon became apparent that the township was too small a unit of government for this work and consequently in 1932 a special session of the legislature transferred all to the county for maintenance.

The State Highway Department was established in 1921 and began incorporating the main inter-county roads into the state system, the expansion of which has resulted in our present state system.

The latest addition to our highway system is the section of the Indiana East West Toll Road extending across our County of Steuben. This road will

have incorporated in its design all the best features of all toll roads heretofore constructed. It will be three hundred feet in width and will have maximum grades of 2 percent and maximum horizontal curves of 3 degrees.



## Gasoline and Kerosene Distribution from the Early 1900's

*By John C. Stafford*

In the early days of Model T Fords, Brush, Buick, Maxwell, Overland, and a few other cars, gasoline and lubricating oil were not much in demand, due to bad roads and few cars. In those days Angola boasted of having only two bulk storage plants used for storage tanks for gasoline and kerosene, which were shipped in by tank cars. From these storage tanks gas and kerosene were reloaded into small tanks mounted on wagon wheels, and horses were used for delivery of from one to five gallons to customers. Mr. Worthy Thomas and Charles Sheets operated these wagons from house to house. Kerosene was used for lamps and for oil cooking stoves. Soon after, horses gave way to trucks.

One bulk plant was owned by Standard Oil Co. with Charles Sheets as agent, and the other plant



**FIRST DRIVE-IN GAS SERVICE STATION IN  
ANGOLA, INDIANA**

It was erected and operated by John Stafford, who built it in 1916-17, at corner North Wayne and West Gilmore streets. The boy in the picture was Ernest Bland, who died in 1955. John owned a modern 1914 model T Ford, parked near, as shown, where he could guard it.



was owned by the Indian Refining Co. with Edward Rinehart as agent. The Indian Refining Co. was later taken over by The Texaco Oil Co.

In 1916 John C. Stafford came from Fort Wayne to Angola and opened an Auto Tire Shop and Gas Station in the Bucklen building on east Maumee St. The Bucklen building was at that time owned by Clyde Carlin and E. A. Goodwin. A few grocery stores and (monkey wrench) garages had installed 1-gallon hand cranked gas pumps at the front curb. Later the 5-gallon hand cranked pump became popular, and not long afterwards the 5-gallon bowl type pump was introduced. This pump had a visible glass bowl mounted on a metal standard 7 or 8 feet in height marked for 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 gallons. Gas was pumped by hand lever from an underground tank into the bowl above, then delivered to the car by gravity feed, with a shut-off valve on the hose nozzle. In a short time manufacturers came out with a new pump of 10 gallon capacity instead of five. From this time on the Automatic Pump came into existence, and from year to year has been greatly improved, up to the present Automatic Type now in use. During the summer months of 1918 Mr. Stafford constructed the first drive-in service in Angola, perhaps the first in Steuben County. This station was built on the southwest corner of North Wayne and Gilmore Streets, just back of Williamson's hardware store, and was formerly the site of the old Freeman Picture Gallery. The old gas station still stands but the front part has been torn down, and it is now occupied by the Liechty Jewelry Store. This lot was owned by the late Clint Beatty, and Mr. Stafford secured a long lease before building the station.

Indian products were used by Mr. Stafford until 1920 when he installed the third bulk plant, located just back of Tri-State College near the N.Y.C. railroad tracks. At this time he made a contract with the Lincoln Oil Co. for all of Steuben County Distribution. This bulk plant is still in service, and has been owned by the Sinclair Refining Co. since 1928.

About this time the Indian Refining Co. built a drive-in station on the southeast corner of N. Wayne and Gilmore Streets and this is still operated under the Texaco name. The Golden Garage enlarged their building on the northeast corner and cut one corner out for a drive-in station, and Frank DeRosa also built a station on N. Wayne St., which has now been replaced by a new Garage and Sales Room.

Herman Sheets of Fort Wayne installed a new bulk plant, which is still operated by Harcourt Sheets, nephew of the late Herman Sheets. The early wholesale oil distributors were common and most every town or city had one or more, which were owned and operated by private individuals. Steuben County had several such bulk plants, and classed as independents were: Wesley Fulton, Fremont, Ind.; Sheets Oil Co., J. C. Stafford, and the Gaffel Oil Co., all of Angola; Gerald Fuller, Pleasant Lake, Ind. Today most independent dealers have passed on to be a part of the large Major Companies.

Since those pioneering days in the oil business good cars and good roads have encouraged the building of thousands upon thousands of ultra modern Service Stations all over the entire world.

The following dialogue took place in a certain city in one of these super-duper service stations not so long ago, which will show that the service stations of today are offering a new service to the public other than dispensing gas, oil and water.

"A stranger to attendant: 'Can you tell me where Ezra Thomas lives?'"

Attendant: 'Yes, I know Ezra quite well and can tell you exactly where he lives. You go straight down this street to the 27th service station, turn right to the 17th station, turn left to the 12th station, then to your right to the 5th station. Ezra lives the 3rd house on the right side of the street.'

Stranger to attendant: 'Thank you. See you later, if I don't get mixed up on my stations.'"

#### **From Four Watering Fountains for Horse and Oxen to Gasoline Stations**

These fountains were located north of the public square at the Glad Hendry property, west at the Maxton Chevrolet Garage, south at the high school, and east at the Angola Garage.

There were several one-gallon curb gas pumps around the business district of the public square in the early days. The first one was in the alley in the rear of the Henry Kratz Drug Store, and later one was placed in front of the store. Still later, pumps were installed by J. C. Stafford, and Charlie Peet Grocery store in the north end of town, the Sam Dick Grocery, and Will Helme's Ford Garage.

Mr. Wm. Helme entered the Ford Agency in 1908 and the gas pump was installed at the curb in front in 1914. Mr. Ray Alwood joined partnership with Mr. Helme in 1919.

The first automobile in Angola, a White Steamer, was purchased by Dr. W. H. Lane in 1903. Gasoline was bought in Cleveland, Ohio, and shipped to Angola to run the Horseless Carriage.

From pumps to modern gas stations, Angola has thirty-one stations today. Besides those in Angola, there are thirty more places in the county where gasoline may be bought.

### Why Gasoline Prices Are High

The following information will give you a clear picture of the problems confronting the producer of crude oil; also the Refiner, the Jobber or Distributor, and your local Service Station man.

1st—The producer of crude oil carries a fabulous investment for land lease or purchase price and for drilling and equipment. He is subject to heavy overhead expense, and a chain of heavy taxes.

2nd—Crude oil is now shipped or transported by pipe line or railroad tank cars, or by truck, to refineries, who also have heavy overhead expenses, and the same round of taxes.

3rd—The refineries in turn process the crude oil into many kinds of petroleum products, such as low and high grades of fuel oils, kerosene, aviation gas, several grades of gasoline, lubricating oils and greases of many grades for different uses, and many other products. These refineries have a heavy overhead expense, and the same chain of taxes to pay.

4th—Now these refineries transport their various products to the wholesale distributors in your local territory—with another cost of overhead, and the same round of taxes.

5th—The local distributor now delivers these products to the various service stations, to the farmer and to home users of fuel oil, and has his own overhead expenses—and the same chain of taxes to pay.

6th—The major or large oil companies who build so many fine gasoline stations in all counties, in fact all over the world, spend on an average of 40 to 50,000 dollars for each station—including building site, building and all equipment. These stations are leased to individual managers. The companies charge rent based upon the number of gallons sold per month, the general average being 1 to 1½ cents per gallon. In addition to gas rent he is charged an average of \$75.00 per month for lubricating room, which is also used as car wash rack,

tire repair, battery work and light service on cars and trucks. This all adds up to more overhead expense and the same round of taxes—"seems that Uncle Sam is taking most of the cream—the public, skim milk."

Now we will look into the many complex problems confronting your local service station man. For example: You or your wife drive into your favorite station and ask for five gallons of gas. His gross profit will be 4c per gallon, or 20c. You not only get your gas pumped into your car, but he cleans your windshield, sometimes back glass, side glass, and headlights if covered with mud. He checks your oil, checks water in radiator, or in winter tests and checks your anti-freeze. If you ask him he will check your battery, and if needed add distilled water—which he buys—but does not charge you for. You may ask him to check your five tires. If low in pressure he inflates to proper pressure. Air and time cost him money, but he does not charge you for the service. Most tourists ask for rest rooms—both men and women—maybe two or three children. You use his supplies; the room is heated and has to be cleaned up two or three times daily—and some folks do not care how dirty they leave this room. He also pays all plumbing repair bills, pays for light and has to repaint the room once or twice a year. Next, you start asking questions—such as: Where is the post office? Where is the Court House? Where can I get a marriage license? Where is a certain lake, or road, or a certain garage? How far to Chicago or some other city?—and many other questions. This all takes time, day after day, at no extra charge to you. This is all free service to the public, yet all he receives is his 20c gross profit, or 40c if you buy 10 gallons of gas. Your station man and your truck delivery man to rural users has to make up or pay for bad credit accounts each year.

Now in addition to all the above facts he still has many more serious problems, believe it or not: rent to pay, hired help for two shifts each day and night, store license, upkeep and repairs, social security tax on himself and a part of same on each employee, and State Gross Income Tax on all sales. He also has to pay his federal chain of taxes, as well as the county tax; has to act as collection agent for 2c per gallon federal gas tax and 4c per gallon State gas tax; also collects withholding tax on all employees; for which he receives no compensation. Now he pays for heat, lights and water, and pays the jobber or distributor 1 to 2 cents per



gallon for delivery. If gas is shipped into Indiana across a State line, a charge is made for crossing the line.

In addition to the above items there are many other expenses and taxes not mentioned. So do not blame your station man for the price charged. We, the public, should be very thankful that we are not asked to pay a much higher price for gasoline, maybe 35 to 40c per gallon.

Give your station man a word of encouragement and thank him for the fine service he is giving you from day to day.

Steuben County has 6396 autos—1954-55; 1357 trucks; 120 semi-trailers. Farm tractors and other equipment not listed.

Refund by State of Indiana to Steuben County for 1954 was \$196,781.77. This money is supposed to go for road construction and maintenance.

#### **Listing of Gasoline Stations and Their Suppliers**

Wild and Arnold Cities Service  
 Dew Drop Standard Oil  
 North End Gulf Station  
 Goldsmiths Texaco  
 Andys Standard Station  
 Woodys HyFlash  
 Throops Shell Service  
 Tiffanys Sinclair Service  
 Dirrims Mobil  
 Sheets Phillips 66  
 Goldens Garage—Standard  
 Carpenters Texaco  
 Moors DX  
 Angola Garage—Cities Service  
 East Maumee Standard  
 Lamoreaux Gulf  
 Newnam Cities Service  
 Demorest Phillips 66  
 Shaffers Standard Service  
 Alspachs Gulf Service  
 South End Marathon  
 Adams and Fradenburg Sunoco Service  
 Sellgrens Phillips 66  
 Goodwins Standard  
 Maxton Shell Service  
 Maumee Mobil  
 Maumee Marathon  
 Sams Sinclair  
 Maumee Texaco  
 W. End Truck Stop—Phillips 66  
 Angola Oil Company  
 Cities Service Bulk—Andy Wycoff

#### **Outside Angola**

Wards Cut Rate East  
 The Pines—Marathon—Virgil Ward  
 Will Harris—Sinclair—Metz  
 Morgans Service 4 mile corner  
 Fifth Wheel Sinclair 5½ mile corner  
 Gulf Service 9 mile corner  
 Metz Hardware—Standard and Shell  
 Gorrells Sinclair Service  
 Pleasant Lake Cut Rate  
 Pleasant Lake Shell Service and Motel  
 Pleasant Lake Standard  
 Fullers Garage—Pleasant Lake—Shell  
 County Line Shell  
 Oberlins Phillips 66  
 Arnolds Shell—west on R. 20  
 Midway Sinclair—Ray Clifton  
 Midway Shell  
 Hamilton Standard Oil Service  
 Hamilton Corner Station—Shell  
 Taylors Cut Rate  
 Gnagy—Cities Service

#### **Orland**

Norton Cities Service  
 Mikkleson Marathon Motor Sales  
 Willms Phillips 66

#### **Fremont**

Mundys Phillips 66  
 Kinseys Standard Oil  
 Pure Oil Service  
 Fremont Welding and Marathon—Bill Frahm  
 East End Mobil  
 Meyers Boat Livery—Lake James  
 Glen Eden Grocery—Sinclair  
 Lone Tree Point Grocery—Sinclair  
 Lake Pleasant Grocery—Sinclair

#### **Agents**

Day Oil Co., Ray Lovejoy, Agent Sinclair  
 Sheets Oil Co., Harcourt Sheets, Phillips 66  
 Cities Service, Andy Wycoff  
 Standard Oil, George Goudy  
 Kennedy Oil, Roland Penick, Shell  
 HyFlash, Donald Jack  
 Farm Bureau, George Anstett  
 Standard Oil of Fremont, W. Snyder  
 Pure Oil of Fremont  
 Standard Oil, Avery Lemmon, Hamilton  
 Standard Oil, Hudson, Ind. Chorpennig  
 Cities Service, Noll Brothers, Hudson  
 S & S—Marathon, Orland

## Indiana Toll Road Commission

*By W. Hobart Duncan*

The 1951 General Assembly in the State of Indiana passed the Toll Road Act.

Under the Supervision of our Governor George Craig, and the following Toll Road Commission, a four-member Bi-Partisan body; Dr. Dillon Geiger, Chairman; John A. Steele, Vice Chairman; Charles B. Inlow and James Cronin, Jr. By State Law, State Highway Chairman Neil R. Godwin, serves as an ex-officio member; Albert J. Wedeking is executive director and Charles W. Keating, is Secretary-Treasurer.

The bonds were sold and the actual obtaining of right-of-way of the 156.1 mile road was started in Steuben County in February in 1954, under the following personnel:

H. D. Hartman—Chief Engineer

Stanley Shartle—Assistant Right-of-way Engineer

W. Hobart Duncan—Supervisor of Right-of-way in County

A. R. Cato—Head Appraiser

W. W. Schaefer—Land Agent

John Shank—Land Agent

Sterling Rash—Land Agent

Oscar Imhof—Public Relations

Vivian Andrews—Office

Why have toll roads? We cannot keep our present state roads in repair, widen the narrow bridges and build new roads with the funds we receive in gasoline tax and license fees. Toll roads will pay for all expense in building and maintenance, in revenue derived from the traveling public, at no expense to anybody, except those who travel them, and save HUNDREDS and HUNDREDS of lives.

Why the location? Indiana was forced by Ohio building a road that was to enter Steuben to the east of Angola and about one-half mile south of State Road # 20. The people in Angola especially should be happy that the State Officials saw fit to join the Ohio Road at the above mentioned location to relieve them of a traffic condition which would have been too great for this fine town. This condition would have been sure to cause more accidents.

Employment while this road is under construction through Steuben County is sure to be, according to information from the contractor, around six to eight hundred people. Every business house

in Angola is sure to derive benefits from these people that are employed in construction and from the people that it will take to keep the road in repair when it is completed. Across the State I have been told it will take 771 employees. Angola will derive their proportionate part of these.

When this road is completed, Steuben County will see some drastic changes, as lake front lots will be at a premium, which means more people investing money. It means more taxable property which will be a big asset to Steuben County, and quicker transportation to larger cities which will help to develop industries. The chances for Angola and other towns affected by the Indiana East to West Toll Road are bound to be toward the BETTERMENT of all.



## Motor Transportation in Steuben County

*By Glenn Hackett*

It was during World War I that highway motor transportation became noticeable in Steuben County. About 1920 Ed. Morse, who for years handled freight from the New York Central freight house to the various places of business in Angola, with mules and wagon, bought a one-ton truck which was driven by Wilbur Worthington. A few years later, with the purchase of another truck, he sold his mules. He, then, increased his business by doing local household moving.

In about 1920, George Ireland bought a truck to handle mail and express from the New York Central Depot to the Post Office in downtown Angola.

Perry Moughler, living in the north part of Angola, purchased a Republic truck which could handle a load of eight thousand pounds. He was a pioneer around Angola in the handling of live stock from the farm to the local stock yards. He also handled grain from the threshing machine to the local grain dealers. He also pioneered the collection of eggs, poultry, milk by truck, a practice that was to become so popular that regular routes were established through the county to handle these commodities from the producer to the processing plants.



It was in the early 1920's that a bus line was started from Fort Wayne to Angola. It was known as the Golden Fawn. It made two trips daily. The bus was really a long automobile built by the Studebaker Corp. of South Bend, Indiana, and had a capacity of twelve passengers.

Orlo Roberts had a taxi service in Angola which serviced the city, the lakes and several surrounding towns in conjunction with the bus line and the railroad passenger trains.

In 1920 Lloyd Jacob, who operated the Orland Milling and Electric Company at Orland, established a service in that community which had been badly crippled by the discontinuance of operations by the St. Joseph Valley Line Railroad. He started to handle freight shipments from the railroad freighthouse in Angola to the merchants in Orland.

In these days of graveled roads and solid rubber tires, Mr. Jacob experienced many difficulties, especially in the spring of the year when his trucks were ruled off the roads as they became soft and he was allowed to resume operations again when the roads were again frozen hard or when the frost was all out of the ground and the roadbed had dried out and become hard.

Avon Morey, a brother-in-law of Mr. Jacob's, became associated with Mr. Jacob and through the suggestions of several salesmen for various wholesale companies in Fort Wayne, the Orland Trucking Company, as Mr. Jacob's service came to be known, inaugurated the first over-the-highway motor freight service between all cities and towns in the County and Fort Wayne. The trucks were driven by Mr. Jacob, Mr. Morey, and Glenn Hackett. In 1925 Mr. Hackett became a part owner in the Company.

At the same time, in about 1923, Ellis McClish started a similar service from Ashley and Hudson to Fort Wayne.

In 1925, trucks and busses were placed under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission of Indiana and those operating on a schedule were granted operating authority over certain highways. They were ordered to publish the rates they used and to show proof of insurance. The Indiana Motor Rate and Tariff Bureau, Inc., was set up by the truck operators of Indiana to publish the rates. Practically all of the truck lines in Indiana became members of this Bureau. The in-

surance was purchased from reliable insurance companies specializing in this type of insurance.

About this time it became possible to load your furniture at your door and unload at a new location several hundred miles distant. Hard surfaced roads were being built to accommodate the traveling public, tire manufacturers were making pneumatic tires available for trucks, and trucks were being built better mechanically. This increased speed bettered traction and made it possible to travel successfully the year round.

By 1930, with the coming of the semi-trailer, it was possible to move freight from points in Steuben County to Fort Wayne, then transfer it to other motor carriers for other cities in the central states. The same became true of the bus lines.

It was in 1931 that the Orland Trucking Company purchased their first semi-trailer, an 18-ft. van with a capacity of approximately twelve thousand pounds. Mr. Jonathan Emerick of Orland was employed as a driver.

In 1934, Mr. Hackett moved from Orland to Fort Wayne to become manager of the Fort Wayne terminal. At the same time a terminal was established in the Bucklen Building in Angola. This terminal was managed by Mr. Jacob.

In August of 1935, the Orland Trucking Co., the Williams Truck Line, and the Fort Wayne- Lima Truck Line consolidated all their assets and incorporated them into the O. I. M. Transit Corp. This new corporation was granted authority to serve Chicago, Illinois. This made it possible, now, for the residents of Steuben County to receive overnight freight service from Fort Wayne, Indiana, Lima, Ohio, Kalamazoo and Jackson, Michigan and Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Hackett became Secretary-Treasurer of that corporation and remained in that capacity until 1948. Mr. Jacob moved to Chicago as Vice-President and Terminal Manager in that city and Avon Morey became agent in the Angola Station. Kenneth Fiandt was moved from Wolcottville to Angola to operate the pick-up and delivery truck.

In 1935, all trucks and busses handling traffic between various states were brought under the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission, a branch of the Federal Government. Under the rules and regulations of the Interstate Commerce Commission, both the truck lines and the bus lines were ordered to show proof of insurance

and to publish through rates and concurrences with connecting truck and bus lines. Tariff bureaus were set up by the truck lines to accomplish the publication of the rates. This, now, made it possible for the residents of Steuben County to have a rate quoted accurately from Steuben County to any point in the Nation. It was also possible to obtain motor truck service to practically all points.

In 1946, Mr. Jacob and Mr. Morey sold their holdings in the O. I. M. Transit Corp. to the Corporation, Mr. Morey taking up work with the General Electric Company in Fort Wayne, and Mr. Jacob establishing himself in Angola in the insurance business. Kenneth Fiantt became local agent of the Corporation in Angola.

In 1948, Mr. Hackett severed relations with the O. I. M. Transit Corp. and received as compensation a portion of the operating rights and some road equipment.

On May 1, 1948, a new corporation began operations with headquarters in Angola. The new corporation was known as Expressways, Inc., with the following officers and stockholders: Glenn L. Hackett, President and General Manager; Glen Short, Vice President and Traffic Manager; J. N. McGillicuddy, Vice President and Chicago Terminal Manager; Lloyd Jacob, Secretary-Treasurer. Facilities were enlarged at the Bucklen Building to provide a transfer dock and garage. The house immediately north of the Bucklen Building was obtained for use as an office. Jonathan Plank was employed as chief accountant; Kenneth Fiantt was appointed cashier; Jonathan Emerick became chief dispatcher.

In September 1951 Expressways, Inc., moved to 1023 South Wayne Street, just south of the City limits where they now operate one hundred pieces of equipment between Angola and Jackson and Lansing, Michigan; Chicago, Illinois; and Ft. Wayne, Indiana. They employ seventy-five people over the system.

There are several hundred people employed in the County either directly or indirectly with various truck and bus lines. All drivers are members of a Union Local, which is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, which organization boasts the largest membership of any Union in the World. All Drivers are instructed in safety and highway courtesy. They are required to have on file with their employers a complete physical examination report. Each trip is covered by a log

sheet and they are liable to fine if they drive over ten hours, or are on duty over twelve hours. This creates a lot of employment for bus and truck drivers in Steuben County as it is a relay point for them, being centrally located between large cities and also at the intersection of two of the Nation's busiest highways. Highway 20 reaches from Boston to Los Angeles, and Highway 27 reaches from northern Michigan to Southern Florida.

Highway transportation truly is a factor in the welfare and economy for the citizens of Steuben County.

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### Steam Railroads Through Steuben County

The era of railroad construction through Steuben County was not begun until the late 1860's and now, midway through the 20th century, almost one hundred years later, it is a thing of the past. The present period will stand out in history as the age of the Toll Road.

In those early years the farmers, and this county was mainly in that class, hauled their produce to distant markets. It took three days to make a trip with a load, and the same time was required to return with merchandise. It was not until 1870 that the first "iron horse" emitted its black smoke as it rolled through the county. It was this year that the Fort Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw Railway was built, and thereafter came a period of prosperity. This railroad was incorporated under the laws of Indiana on October 21, 1868. It passed through the county from the south and ran through Angola to the northeast through Fremont Township, on into Michigan.

On April 8, 1869, the above Company was consolidated with the Jackson, Fort Wayne and Cincinnati Railroad, retaining the name of Ft. Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw Railroad. This Company existed until December 3, 1879, when it was sold at foreclosure and acquired by the Fort Wayne and Jackson Railroad. It was at that time 97.472 miles long.

On September 1, 1882, the Fort Wayne and Jackson Railroad was leased to the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad Company. On December 23, 1914, the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern and its leased properties were taken up by the New York Central Railroad Company and have been operated by the latter to this date of 1955. The Company paid taxes of \$11,226 to Steu-





**THE OLD NEW YORK CENTRAL DEPOT IN ANGOLA**

This was destroyed by fire and never rebuilt. The date of the fire is: 5 A.M., Sunday, May 14, 1933.

ben County in 1954, an increase over the 1953 payment.

This was the only railroad in the County until the Wabash Railroad was built through the southern tier of townships in 1893 for the purpose of conveying passengers to the Chicago World's Fair. About twenty years before this a survey had been made for a proposed road into Canada, but no such road materialized.

Upon building of the Wabash line, new towns, Helmer, Hudson and Ashley sprang up and became industrious and prosperous communities. It made a great change in the problems of the farmer. He could haul stock and grain for shipping in a shorter time and return with whatever produce or equipment he might need.

The last venture in railroading was the St. Joe Valley Line from Elkhart through LaGrange and Steuben Counties into the State of Ohio to Montpelier. This was a project, undertaken from 1906 until the first World War, 1918, when it was discontinued, of Herbert E. Bucklen, the salve manufacturer of Elkhart.

The idea might have been successful had Mr. Bucklen had the vision and money twenty years

earlier, but he failed to see the handwriting on the wall. The transportation situation had changed, and the steam roads were being rapidly displaced. Mr. Bucklen must be given credit that he used the very latest style gas motor to haul the passenger coach, while the steam engine hauled the freight. This railway meant a great deal to the small towns that had always been missed by the railroads. The town of Orland had never known before or since the prosperity that she enjoyed during those ten years. It caused new business houses to develop and Orland became a thriving shipping center. The closing of the railroad was a great disappointment to many all along the line. However, motor trucks were rapidly becoming available and it was a great convenience to load and unload but once for a destination. During World War I the rails and rolling stock were largely sold to a Chicago junk dealer when prices were high for such material.

As it is, the early road, the Fort Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw, now the New York Central Company, and The Wabash are the only steam roads passing through the county. The passenger trains grew fewer and fewer until the service was discontinued entirely. Even the mail is carried in

motor postoffices. Yet for some heavy, bulky transfers the railroads command their place in the transportation field.

As late as 1925, near the center of the state there could be seen three modes of transportation running parallel; the interurban car with the overhead trolley, the auto speeding down the improved highway, and on the right was the steam train. Above all there was the airplane soaring far off into the distance. This represented four main types of transportation, three of which are still much in evidence.

Editor's Note: Statistics for the above Chapter were furnished by Richard C. Marshall, Public Relations Representative of the New York Central System.



## Steuben County Automobiles

By A. E. Holden

Almost in the dawn of Automobile History in Steuben County, Indiana, Doctor W. H. Lane bought one of the first cars in the County. It was an ancient model White Steamer, vintage of 1903. What a car! With its two cylinder engine, powered by steam, it ran quietly, silently gliding over the streets of Angola, and along the County's dusty roads, long before paved highways were known in the country areas. This car was purchased without an insurance policy. As Dr. Lane expressed it, the automobile was pretty new in those days, but car insurance was even more of a novelty at that time. However, Dr. Lane, who believes that "Discretion is the better part of valor," bought Insurance protection from Lloyd's of London for a special policy in the sum of \$990.00. It was fortunate for him that he did, as fire destroyed his car the following fall, and Lloyd's paid him by check in full for the loss.

Following his purchase of the White Steamer, he later bought a Haynes Car, and later on an Apperson, then called a "Jack-Rabbit," right hand drive automobile in the higher price range, known as "Quality Brand" cars. Later when Ford cars were coming into their own brand of reputable

automobiles, "Bill" Helme of Orland took on about the first major operation as an automobile sales and service dealer, and Dr. Lane bought one of the new Fords every year for 6 or 8 years. In fact, as Dr. Lane remembers it, Mr. Helme was about the first large automobile dealer in the County.

Dr. Lane recalls that very little winter driving was done in those days. It was customary to jack up the car, take off the tires and store them in a warm dry room for protection against extreme and rapid weather changes in winter seasons.

If you got a puncture in those days, and no guardian angel came along with the tools and the know-how, to fix it for you, you just did the next best thing and fixed your tube with a piece of adhesive patching rubber, put your tire back on the clincher rim, attached your clumsy air pressure pump and went to work pumping "wind" in your casing until it stood up firm and solid under the weight of your old model car, and started back to town.

No, there were no tire chains in those days either, so if you got stuck in the mud or deep snow on a steep hill, you would merely take a long piece of heavy rope, usually  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch size, or better still, a piece of one-inch hay rope and come on up the hill, or at least you kept going until friction wore the rope in two and it would fall off along the roadside.

For eighteen years Dr. Lane used a horse and buggy. He explained that driving the car in winter when deep snow covered the streets or dirt roads, it was common-place to get stuck and he would have to be pulled out with a heavy rope, hitched to old Dobbin. He told me about one time when the engine stalled, a heavy farm tractor of the old slow moving type had to pull him out of his dilemma.

But the automobile proved to be a God-send to the people, and with the advancement in engineering construction, modern design in beauty and comforts, closed limousine type bodies, more perfect visibility for driving safety, and the installation of warm air heaters, larger, low pressure non-skid tires for all year driving conditions, "Horse and Buggy" days were over, and high speed transportation over paved highways has brought automobile transportation to a position second only in volume to that of the National Food Industry.

Among the pioneer car dealers, who were first in the field of sales agencies and service shops, as



mentioned before, was Bill Helme of Orland. James McCool was a Ford dealer in Angola and Emmett Croxton was an early dealer in Angola selling Auburn cars. Bart Golden has long been engaged in Automotive service, operating the Golden Garage. The first drive-in filling station in Angola was where the Liechty Jewelry store is now located on Wayne Street in Angola, Indiana. Melvin Kratz once operated a Bowser crank type gasoline pumping outfit in front of his drug store on Maumee Street, then known as a curb pumping service. It was the first Bowser Unit in Steuben County.

The first new car to be purchased in Steuben was a gasoline powered one cylinder Cadillac. It was purchased by Dr. S. C. Wolfe and was bought in 1904. This car was a bright red. Dr. Wolfe states that he attended the first automobile show in Detroit, Michigan, and that there were only 8 or 10 cars shown at that time.

The second new car bought in Steuben County was purchased by the late Daniel R. Wisel of Salem Township. The brand of car was a "Brush" single cylinder two passenger car, wearing a "one-man" top like the ones used on the single horse-drawn buggy of the "Golden" age before the advent of the motor car. Mr. Wisel delighted in telling how his wife became accustomed to the "High Speed" age of the automobile when riding at the merry old gait of 15 miles per hour. To the question: "Aren't you afraid to ride so fast along the narrow dusty roads in the vehicle?" she would say, "I'm not any more afraid of riding in it than I would be of riding in a wheel barrow," and that seemed to settle all arguments. Mr. Wisel lived to be 102 years old.

One well known citizen, Mr. Charles Rodebaugh, owner of the Angola Bottling Works, enjoys the reputation of being the proud owner of several models of "ancient" cars, some of them so old as to be classed as "Antiques." For example, he has an old Brush car, in the one cylinder type with a tiller steering arm and chain drive. This old unit, like some other models he has in his private garage on South Wayne Street, is in the process of restoration as Mr. Rodebaugh calls it. He likes to make these old cars run, and when he says run, he means as good as when they were new. For example, one of his pet jobs is an old Packard car, which he says is something like 20 years old or maybe more. Anyone who sees it, will say with-

out fear of successful contradiction that it is the most beautiful car in Angola today, and perhaps would cost the most money. Anyway, Mr. Rodebaugh says it has had 32 hand-coats of laquer-rub painting and it is worth a lot of money. When he opens a door of the car, or lifts the sparkling hood, he does so with a soft cloth in his hand so as not to mar any of the metal brackets, bumpers or fittings on the highly polished exterior surfaces. Mr. Rodebaugh says that every last bolt in this beautiful old car has been removed, cleaned and replaced, while the body itself, is an entirely new unit, hand made, and hand finished, just like the original was when it left the Packard factory many years ago. And that is not all. The straight eight cylinder engine was sent to Fort Wayne, where new pistons, rings, valves and bearings were installed after machining, to one ten-thousandth of an inch precision measurement, until it runs as quietly as the proverbial sewing machine. It is silent on the road in action, whether running at 10 miles per hour or 120 miles. With its self starter and automatic device which oils the springs properly, and its left hand drive, or steering device, no wonder Mr. Rodebaugh declines to name a sale price on it. He obtained the antique model in a dealer's shop in Detroit, Michigan. Both he and his son have obtained many hours of pleasant pastime, remodeling this old car. It's a honey—no foolin'!

#### **Automobile Dealers and Car Agencies of 1954**

Adams and Fradenburg, Studebaker Cars.  
 Angola Motor Sales, Mercury Cars.  
 Bright C. Reed, Cadillac Cars.  
 Ted Chapman Motors, Ford Cars.  
 Louis Maxton, Chevrolet Cars.  
 Fuller Chevrolet Sales, Chevrolet Cars, Pleasant Lake, Indiana.  
 Goldsmith Motors, Chrysler and Plymouth Cars.  
 Martin Auto Sales, DeSoto and Plymouth Cars.  
 Bob Lamoreaux, Pontiac Cars.  
 Ed. Sellgren Buick Co., Buick Cars.  
 McNaughton Motor Sales, Angola and Fremont, Oldsmobile Cars.  
 Dewey Auto Sales, Angola, Indiana. Repairing and replacement parts.  
 Automotive Paint and Supply Company. Angola, Indiana (Parts.)  
 Weatherhead Company, parts manufacturers and distributors. Angola, Indiana.



## The St. Joseph Valley Railway

*By Theron Miller*

At the turn of the century and at a time when Henry Ford was adapting the gasoline engine to the horseless carriage, H. E. Bucklen of Elkhart, Indiana, was buying right-of-way and laying rails for the construction of a railroad from Elkhart, Indiana to Toledo, Ohio. When completed the road was to service Bristol, Shipshewana, LaGrange, Mongo, Orland, Angola, Columbia and Pioneer, Ohio and other communities between Pioneer and Toledo, as well as all territory adjacent thereto. However, Columbia, Ohio was as far as the road was ever completed. The first World War brought on shortages of essential materials necessary to the construction and operation of the road, resulting in the abandonment of the operation, the sale of the steel rails and all equipment, as well as the abandonment of the right-of-way.

When I went to work for the "Valley Line" as it was called in 1909, stations had been erected at most of the above points, and there were many flagstops along the line. In fact trains would stop most anywhere to serve passenger traffic.

The railroad proper running through Angola was at the north end of town, at what was called the Junction. From that point rails were laid down North Wayne Street to the Public Square and thence east one block to Martha Street. On the Northwest corner of Maumee and Martha Streets, a two-story building was erected, as a station and for housing gasoline motor cars that operated on the line. This is the building now occupied by the news stand. I recall it was built in the winter time—a thing unheard of locally up to that time—build a brick building in the winter. It couldn't be done. It wouldn't stand. The water had to be heated to mix mortar, and the bricks had to be heated. Many were the doubting Thomases.

My first employment with the Valley Line was as a station agent at the junction. Earl Dole was the ticket agent up town. Later I served as conductor on the motor cars; also checked the rolling stock of foreign cars used on the line. Ray Terry

worked as station agent at the junction after I took on the other employment. Ray had been with the New York Central. Jess Reek was the motor-man on the gasoline car, he being one of the few men of that day that had some knowledge of gasoline motors. Bert Opie was conductor on the steam train; Geo. Payne was the Master Mechanic. He was followed by R. C. Jones and he in turn by Murat Blizzard from the Big Four. Sam Cocher was the track Master, and R. C. Jones was the General Superintendent. He lived in LaGrange and formerly worked for the B. & O. Railroad. Carl Brown was station agent at Inverness and Ed. Murray at Orland.

At the time the first steam train was operated over the Valley Line from Orland to Angola, it was boarded by a surprising number of folk who had never ridden on a train before. To some of us that seemed rather shocking. However, today, (1954) there are thousands and thousands of people that have never ridden on a steam railroad. There's no occasion or need to. The automobile has replaced such need. The fact is, if the first World War had not stopped the operation of the Valley Line, Henry Ford and like-minded men would soon have put it out of business, for the Automobile was on its way as a means of transportation for both passengers and the hauling of freight, quickly and conveniently.

The building of a railroad is an undertaking of considerable magnitude, and is usually financed by the sale of stocks and bonds. Not so the "Valley Line" (or Arnica Salve Line as it was sometimes called); it was a private undertaking on the part of Herbert E. Bucklen's Arnica Salve. A reprint of a local news item that appeared in the Steuben Republican of 44 years ago, stated that the Valley Line had already cost Bucklen one million dollars and that the average per mile cost was fifteen thousand dollars.

### **There Never Was a Line Like It**

(Reprinted from Railway Progress)

You've heard that famous old chesnut—"Everybody wants to run a railroad"? Out Indiana way, the old-timers will bend your ear by the hour with seemingly impossible yarns about a lovable but choleric old gentleman, Dr. Herbert E. Bucklen, who not only wanted to run a railroad but actually built one and ran it to suit himself despite frequent and vociferous protests from the Interstate Commission.



Rail historians and fans have always had difficulty in attempting to classify the "Arnica Salve Line" because of the great variety of equipment used down through the years. In addition to regular steam powered passenger and freight equipment, the line boasted gasoline, gasoline-electric, storage battery, trolley and several little gasoline cars that were virtually bus bodies with lead trucks and flanged wheels. At one time a number of large gasoline powered Fairbanks-Morse cars were in use over most of the line. These cars were noted for the unusual method used to start their big four-cylinder motors. The motorman placed a twelve-gauge shotgun shell in a chamber over the No. 1 cylinder, locked it in place and then hit a protruding pin with a ball-peen hammer, thus firing the shell which forced the piston down and started the motor. The shot contained in the shell was discharged through the exhaust system. This hodge-podge of motive power and great variety of car styles made the little known St. Joseph Valley Railway one of the most unique lines in railroad annals.

The eventual aim of the good doctor was to completely electrify the line to connect with the Chicago, South Bend and Northern Indiana on the west and the Toledo and Western, building westward from Toledo, Ohio. To meet the Toledo and Western, he extended his tracks to Columbia, Ohio, but the Toledo and Western ended its line at Pioneer, Ohio, some thirteen miles from Columbia. This thirteen mile stretch, never completed, was often referred to as the "missing link," a term that never failed to enrage the good doctor for that comparatively short stretch of track that was never finished was all that remained to provide through service from Utica, N. Y., to Chicago.

The doctor was firmly convinced that the electric interurban cars were here to stay. This, mind you, was in the days of dirt roads, linen dusters, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft and Arnica Salve (available at all stores—10 cents.)

The wags of the day loved to tell of the time when Bucklen himself was watching a crew grading one of the crossings. One of the teamsters had mired his team in the mud earlier and, fearing that they might go lame as a result, hollered over to Bucklen—"Hey Doc, got any of that Arnikey Salve with you?" "No," the doctor yelled back, "but use some of the grease from the wagon axle—it's the same stuff!"

Among the details that constantly annoyed the doctor was the never ending series of claims for deceased cattle, usually presented by enraged farmers. No record was kept of the number of bovine beauties sent to happier pastures by the line's rolling stock, but the frequent claims for losses were a bitter pill for the creator of Arnica Salve. Human nature being what it is, the ironical fact finally struck home to Bucklen that his cars never killed just ordinary cows, but by some monstrous conspiracy of the fates, destroyed only prized creatures of royal and honored stock whose welfare the owner cherished and valued more than life itself.

During the years, Dr. Bucklen had many historic brushes with members of the Commission—brushes that left the Commission investigators livid with rage and the doctor equally incensed but still determined to run the St. Joseph Valley Railroad as he saw fit and "to hell with the Interstate Commerce Commission and their rules."

Yes, that's the way it was on the old "Arnica Salve Line"—a continuous battle between old "Doc" Bucklen, a rugged individualist if ever there was one, and the gentlemen from the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Old "Doc" passed away during the winter of 1917. A few months later the line was sold by his heirs and ceased to function as the St. Joseph Valley Railway on April 14, 1918. Now you know why the old-timers still say—"there never was a line like it!"



## The Trolley to Paltytown

*By Dean Cline*

The Angola Railway and Power Company Electric Trolley Line or just the "Trolley" is still remembered by the older residents of Steuben County, and in fact, northeastern Indiana. When the line was built, before good roads, and not many automobiles, it was the chief means of transportation to Lake James.

The line was built by Charles Pilliod, Sr., about 1902 or '03 and was financed by the Kinney Bank,



"The Trolley to Paltytown." This was taken in front of Stiefel's Store, the conductor shown being Robert Carson.

and the National Mills, which latter also furnished the power, and power and water, for the city of Angola.

The rolling stock consisted of 1 closed car, 1 partly closed and partly open car, 1 passenger trailer, and 2 work cars.

After a short time financial difficulties put the line in receivership with Fred Snyder as receiver, who appointed Carver Wood as manager. Claude Morse was office manager and Carl Weiss was the Chief Engineer.

When first put into operation, the line ran from Paltytown, Lake James to the Angola Public Square. Later, the cars stopped at Stiefel's corner and later ended at the Methodist Church corner.

At the time West Maumee Street was paved, in 1916, the sand and gravel for the pavement was hauled from a gravel pit near Paltytown. Oscar (Spiel) Weiss was killed while working on this job.

Some of the conductors who worked on the Line were Ross Williamson, Oscar Weiss, O. B. Hinkle, George Housman, Charles Gaskill, Don and John Culver.

Lake goers from Fort Wayne came to Angola

via New York Central and then took "The Trolley" to Lake James and so to the various cottages by passenger boats. At times, on holidays or Sundays, the New York Central would drop off fifteen to twenty passenger cars at Angola and pick them up to go back to Fort Wayne Sunday night.

The coming of automobiles and good roads caused the line to be abandoned about the end of 1918.

### "The Vistula Road"

(From LaGrange Newspapers)

LaGrange county people may not be aware that State Road 120 through the northern part of the county, known historically as "The Vistula Road," is the oldest path of travel in the Central West being used beyond the span of recorded history as a main Indian trail, then by the French traders and missionaries, later claimed as a possession of the Spaniards and then used by the English and American colonial soldiers. If the toll road follows the northern route it will not be far off the course and thus what was the most traveled path



of Indians and pioneers may be the most traveled path joining the East to the West for centuries to come.

The following on the famous road was written by the late Myron J. Shell, editor of the Hicksville News-Tribune: "In reply to your letter regarding the old Vistula trail, oftentimes and at certain places east of Indiana, in the neighborhood of Morenci, Mich., of which it constitutes the east and west street, called the 'Territorial' road:

"The difficulty of getting data on the road is that it has been under the flags of three nations, and was opened while France claimed and had possession of the land along the old trail.

"The road or trail was originally an Indian trail, leading from the south shore of Lake Michigan, now Chicago, to what is now Toledo (Maumee Bay), thence along the south shore of Lake Erie to the Sandusky settlement and to old Fort Duquesne, a French possession, now the city of Pittsburgh.

"The road is well over 200 years old, outdating the United States republic by perhaps 75 years. It was used to forward French provincial troops to the French settlements or posts in Wisconsin, being first traveled by the French Jesuits and explorers.

"It was called the 'Territorial' road because it led to the territories of Indiana, and Michigan, the name Territorial being applied to it after the British evacuated the territory, which was about 1816, at the conclusion of or following the War of 1812-1815, between the States and Great Britain. So you see the road was known as the Vistula road, when under the French flag, then after the Queen Anne war, known to us as the 'French and Indian war,' the country fell under the rule of Great Britain, and English troops marched over the road being forwarded to Fort Dearborn and into the French settlements of Wisconsin, on Green Bay, etc.

"If it interests you, will say that the first settlement on Maumee bay was named 'Vistula' by the French fur traders, in memory of some town or location in France.

"Soon after this, the Spaniards, also claiming this district, started a settlement on Maumee Bay, naming it 'Toledo,' after an historical city in

Spain, but Spain failed to substantiate her claim and was never in actual possession of the land.

"After Great Britain surrendered the land, in 1815, which she had agreed to do in the treaty following the revolution, but failed to live up to it until 1815-1816 and then a trading post was established on the bay, called or named Port Lawrence. Under the American rule the three posts were merged into one government and named 'Toledo,' the small posts were practically in sight of each other.

"The Vistula Road, you see, was opened before there was any United States or federal states.

"I have never been able to find any statistics relating to its width, or any matter of that kind. It was simply there when American history opened in that locality.

"Statistics, if any, would have to be secured from the archives of France, but even that would be doubtful, as the road simply followed an Indian trail.

"In the Elkhart-South Bend neighborhood Indiana road No. 2, from Ft. Wayne, U.S. Road No. 6, U.S. Road No. 20, and Michigan road U.S. 112, all converge into it and continue to Chicago, being the original parent road.

"A further explanation would be that all of those roads kept to the north, especially from Ft. Wayne, in order to pass around the northern end of the great Kankakee swamp, impassable in the early days.

"The road passes through or nearby Sylvania, Ohio, thence over the Michigan line, forming the main east and west street of Morenci, Mich., passing just south of Waldron, then through Drinkers Mills, South Camden, the south shore of Clear Lake, Ind., thence the main street east and west of Fremont, Ind., Jimtown, Orland, Howe, formerly Lima, Ind., and on into Elkhart, where its title disappears in U.S. highway No. 20, on to Chicago, although it is the original trail and road being the shortest route of all between Toledo and Chicago. There are other trails of equal interest, such as the trails of Mad Anthony Wayne, his marches and battles; General Winchester and his battles; the British expedition up the Maumee, and siege of Ft. Wayne, etc."

# Agriculture



## History of Steuben County Agriculture

*By Merle Grabill*

### Pioneer Days

The agricultural history of Steuben County began with the settlement by Gideon Langdon and John and Jacob Stayner on Jackson Prairie in 1831. The first land entry was made on September 17th by Mr. Langdon, followed ten days later by John Stayner. Mr. Langdon's original entry is now owned by Lincoln Booth and is the 80 acres of land, including the Jackson Prairie Cemetery, on the west side of State road 327, 2½ miles south of Orland. The land entered by John Stayner, was the 80 acres on the east side of the road and lying parallel to it. Let us say, therefore, that agriculture in Steuben County had its beginning in September 1831 at the above location, except previous minor cultivation of the soil by Indians, the original inhabitants.

It may be of interest to note here that Robert Twitchell, Jr., of Orland remembers of his grandfather, Jonas Twitchell, telling him that when they settled in 1836, one-half mile west of the present Jackson Prairie Cemetery, a large encampment of Potawatomi Indians was located just 20 rods south of their cabin, the present site of the Wendell Stayner home. The Indians were friendly and were not moved out of the County to a reservation until 4 years later.

During the past one hundred twenty-three years, which brings us up to the date of this writing, there has been much change in agricultural practice, farming methods, soil cultivation and treatment, livestock production methods and even the predominance of certain kinds of livestock has changed greatly. This same space of time has been marked by great inventions which contributed much to the agricultural evolution

of the County. At the time Gideon Langdon and John Stayner began farming in Steuben County in 1831, Cyrus McCormick of Virginia was still trying to perfect his reaper which was not actually workable until three years later. By this time there were ten white families in the County. It was eight years later that the first reaper factory was set up in Chicago. These facts are included here to cause us to reflect on the great change that has occurred during the past 125 years. It is also noteworthy that the invention of the reaper was the first great milestone in a rapidly changing agriculture.

As farmers began to replace their cradles with reapers, the first steel plow, invented by John Deere was being improved with an all-steel mould board to replace wooden mould boards. The cotton gin of the south was soon to follow. Great changes were occurring in transportation at the time that Gideon Langdon and John Stayner came to Steuben County. The Erie Canal had just been completed and the first railroad of 17 miles of track had been completed between Albany and Schenectady, New York, the same year that agriculture began in Steuben County.

Our pioneer forefathers were still forced to use horses and go on foot, as a means of transportation, for many years to come. The coming of the railroad and canals, however, did provide a market outlet later for farm products. At the very beginning, there was no market and crops were raised to be used as food for the farmer's family and his livestock. Corn, potatoes, wheat, and hay were the crops raised to be fed to cattle and horses. Rail fences were hard to build and it took a long time to enclose a field with rails. Rail splitting cost 50c per thousand. The cows were allowed to graze through the woods with bells on them, so they could be found and brought home at night.

The early years of settlement saw families move in quite rapidly. In 1835, there were 10 families living in Steuben County. In 1844, or 12 years after Gideon Langdon first came to Steuben County, there were 607 families living here. The total valuation of the property then



was \$414,200 and the total tax collected was \$6,740.82 or about \$11 per family.

### Early Agricultural Practice

Half a century had passed since the coming of our first settlers and their families before an effort was made to record the history of our County. In 1885, the first history of Steuben County was written. At that time the ten white families of 1835 had grown to a population of 16,000. During these fifty years the various towns as we know them today became established in the communities and some trading centers of pioneer times had gone by the way side. For example, the first store and blacksmith shop in the County were located at the south end of Beaver Dam Lake, about one-half mile west of the first settlement in the County. The first school was also located just east of there a short distance, but by 1885, times had changed and Orland had become the trading center for that area.

The first organized agricultural activity was known as the Steuben County Agricultural Society, first organized in 1855. Its major purpose was to provide for exhibits. The discussion of the Fairs of Steuben County is treated by another section of this book so no further reference will be made to it here.

The first statistics available on agricultural production of selected crops and produce for the year 1883, or 70 years ago, are as follows:

Acres of wheat	26,081	yield 15 bushel per acre.
Acres of corn	21,954	yield 23 bushel per acre.
Acres of oats	5,762	yield 35 bushel per acre.
Acres of clover	14,562	yield 1½ tons per acre.
Acres of timber	35,505	
Maple syrup	2,514	gallons
Maple sugar	17,041	pounds
Sorghum molasses	4,924	gallons
Butter	497,819	pounds
Cheese	63,210	pounds
Eggs	34,430	dozen
Wool	184,769	pounds

### Livestock Numbers for 1883

Horses	4,639	head
Cattle	10,669	head
Hogs	18,465	head
Sheep	37,173	head

The sixty year period from the beginning of the reaper up to 1900 was quite a period of land

development. Much of the land was cleared for farming purposes after the Civil War. This served a double purpose. The land was cleared and much of the native timber was used in the construction of new homes, large barns and other farm buildings. During this time the old "horse-power," which was a circular mechanical means of having horses develop power to thresh grain, was being replaced with steam engines as a power unit. The use of farm tractors as we think of them today did not make their appearance until as late as 1915. It is true that steam driven tractor engines were used some in the west where immense acreage of plains land was being prepared for wheat but their use was not practiced in small farming operations. The first tractors were one-cylinder motors designed to use kerosene for fuel.

The large application of mechanical power to farming operations has developed since 1915. Prior to that time all field work, plowing, fitting, seeding, cultivation and harvesting was done by horses. Even riding cultivators were frowned upon as it indicated that the farmer was getting "soft" and besides he could not do as good a job of cultivating or uncovering corn when riding on the seat. These were still the days when drudgery was a good way to describe the long hours in the fields, followed by the milking of cows by hand, at the end of a hard day's work following a team of horses.

The past thirty-five years has seen great strides in mechanical application to farming operations. Farm tractors were finally developed into the "row-crop" type, so that farmers could use the machine to cultivate their corn rather than to use horses. The combine harvester has replaced the old threshing machine and its daily "threshing dinner" through the season. Other machines of rather recent development include mechanical milking machines, corn pickers, manure spreaders, manure loaders, elevators, feed grinders, forage harvesters, two-row and even four-row equipment being in use. One other important development in recent years has been that almost all farm equipment moves on rubber tired wheels for speed and comfort.

We have come a long way since the time of Gideon Langdon and John Stayner. Rural electrification became a reality in 1935 and now the farm home is often the electrical counterpart of

the city home with the additional advantage of using electricity for power and convenience on the farm as was not dreamed of 20 years ago.

Who would have attempted 50 years ago to describe the farm of today, with electricity cooking the meals, heating the water, pumping the water under constant pressure, refrigerating the food, storing frozen food the year around, firing the furnace, grinding the feed, lighting the home, the barns, the service yards, the poultry houses, keeping new-born livestock warm, washing the dishes and in addition drying them, washing and rinsing the clothes and then ironing them? Finally at the end of the day, bringing the finest programs from all parts of the world on the television screen in the living room of his air conditioned home. This is the farmer of today as contrasted with the conditions and hardship of his forebears, Gideon Langdon and John Stayner, of 1831.

Space in history should not be devoted to a discussion of conditions of the present except to point out the change in conditions as they affect agricultural practice and production. As pointed out earlier, these changes had their effect on population trends and also production. The industrial era that has developed since 1900 caused the population to shift from the country to the city.

The writer has in his possession farm records of his parents, who began farming on the same farm in 1898 where the writer was born and now lives. In 1900, the total farm receipts were \$634.54 from 80 acres of land. The following prices were received that year: Seed corn, \$1.00 per bushel, clover seed, \$5.80, wool, 23¼c per pound, hogs, 5c per pound, ewes, \$3.00 per head. Total receipts for 1901 were \$758.69 and farm prices were about the same. From then on total farm receipts were over a thousand dollars per year and during those same years, the writer's parents built all the buildings on the farm except the residence which had been built before their marriage. It is difficult for us to understand how people prospered in those days, but they did, through hard work and long hours in the fields. Taxes were low, income taxes had not been thought of and there were no autos or tractors to buy gasoline for, and that was only 50 years ago.

### Changes in Agricultural Production

The period of 1831 to Civil War times would

mark the agriculture of Steuben County as rapidly expanding within the limits of hand labor and horse power. The early settlers cleared the land for cultivation of its virgin timber, using it for the construction of log cabins and splitting it into rails for fences. The rest was burned as it had no value from an agricultural standpoint at that time. In fact, the clearing of land in Steuben County continued after the Civil War, to some extent. The 80 acres lying just south of where the writer lives, and formerly owned by his grandfather, Enos Grabill, was cleared by Civil War Veterans.

It is hard to believe that some of the soil which we cultivate now was virgin soil about 90 years ago.

During the summer of 1954 the writer had an opportunity to visit Spring Mill State Park in the southwestern part of Indiana, which is near Paoli, the County Seat, and at this Park there is a restoration of an early pioneer village that was a thriving community in log-cabin days. This place is so interesting that any Steuben County people who are near there should visit the place. All cabins are restored, the mill is in operation daily (for visitors) and shops of the village, such as the hattery, the tavern, the distillery, blacksmith shop, the apothecary shop and postoffice are all there. The homes are furnished and the trip is like dropping back 125 years to the same time when Gideon Langdon and John Stayner settled in Steuben County. The reason Spring Mill became a ghost town and did not develop into a large city was because of transportation. When surveyors laid out the highways, they kept on the highground in Southern Indiana. The towns of Steuben County also developed as trading centers near water power sites in a similar manner. This is true of Orland, Flint, Nevada Mills at least, and I believe Hamilton also. The grinding of grains for feed and wheat for flour was an important problem in the early days. The writer can remember in his boyhood days when the annual trip to the mill at Flint resulted in storing about 15 or 20 sacks of flour upstairs for the baking of bread during the year. Farmers bought very little in the way of food stuffs in the early days. Butchering of 4 hogs at a time was not uncommon as the meat was cured, smoked, and canned for the year. Refrigeration as we know it now, was undreamed of. Ice houses and ice boxes were twentieth century developments which



have gone out now. It used to be quite an event to go to the neighbors and get a "block" of ice out of the saw dust in the ice house and make homemade ice cream on Sunday.

In these early days the crops of Steuben County were largely corn, wheat, barley, hay, and clover seed, buckwheat, rye, and potatoes. The livestock consisted of cows for milk, hogs and sheep. Poultry was not important. We have changed our agricultural production greatly. At one time Steuben County was one of the leading sheep producing counties of the State, but that has changed because of the widespread use of alfalfa for hay and pasture and the resultant increase in dairy cattle for whole milk. In the early days, even as late as 1910, the only outlet for dairy products, except near the cities, was for homemade butter. The farmer's wives prided themselves on the superior quality of their butter over their neighbors and the butter was taken to town to be exchanged for staple groceries. The grocer had steady city customers for Mrs. So and So's butter. It had to be that way as there was no way of keeping milk from souring and in the red checkered table cloth days of the writer's grandmother, the "pantry" was lined with half gallon crocks of milk to be "skimmed" for the cream, to be churned later in the week into butter. This period was followed later with the "water separator" in about 1908 or 1910 and about 5 years later the mechanical cream separator. The large milk processing companies such as Pet Milk and daily farm pick-up of raw milk did not come until about 1920 with the introduction of the automobile truck into that type of work.

In 1954 Steuben County is one of the leading counties of Indiana in the production of alfalfa per farm, dairy products, turkeys, maple syrup, and is becoming important in broilers. Barley acreage is practically non-existent. Sheep are now relatively unimportant. Beef cattle are more predominate than formerly for two reasons, one of which is the recent increase in beef prices and the decline in milk prices. Prices of farm products are fluctuating constantly and the production of farm commodities changes with it. Fifteen years ago, onions were an important crop on our muck farms, but not now. Mint oil was produced extensively 40 years ago, but not now. Fertilization of crops by commercial fertilizers and the use of marl in great amounts were almost unheard of farm practices 40 years ago.

### Pertinent Statistical Data on Agricultural Production Steuben County 1954

#### Cropping practice and land use

1. Number of farms .....	1,389
2. Acres in farms .....	171,744
3. Acres in corn .....	29,814
4. Acres in oats .....	17,746
5. Acres in wheat .....	15,820
6. Acres in rye .....	53
7. Acres in barley .....	40
8. Acres in soybeans .....	310
9. Acres in alfalfa hay .....	11,725
10. Acres in clover hay .....	10,543
11. Acres plowland in pasture .....	22,905
12. Acres rough pasture, timber, wasteland .....	57,548

#### Livestock Numbers

1. Total cattle on farms .....	17,299
a—milk cows .....	8,025
b—beef cows .....	578
c—other cattle .....	8,696
2. Total sheep on farms .....	5,271
3. Total sows on farms .....	2,775
4. All swine on farms .....	11,084
5. Poultry (no. of dozen) .....	6,985

#### Other interesting farm data

1. No. Farm Tractors .....	1,399
2. No. persons living on farms .....	4,713
3. No. Farms with electricity .....	1,185
4. No. Farms with electric ranges .....	498
5. No. Farms with electric refrigerators ..	870
6. No. Farms with electric home freezers ..	406
7. No. Farms with electric sewage disposals .....	686
8. No. Farms with electric television sets ..	385
9. No. Farms with electric milking machines .....	581
10. No. Farms with electric pick-up balers ..	162
11. No. Farms with electric forage harvesters .....	31

This trend can be explained by the fact that as new agricultural machinery cut down the hand labor requirements on the farm, the demand for employees in cities to manufacture this industrial equipment, attracted young men from the farms

to the cities. This was most significant in the period of 1910 to 1940 but still continues, with a mechanized agriculture. This is also caused in part by the large investment required at present to start farming. At the turn of the century a young man could start farming with a team of horses, a plow and a wagon. That would be impossible today.



## Farm Groups

By Clayton Elliott

### 4-H WORK

4-H Club activities began in the Metz Community in the summer of 1918. Mr. T. P. Charles was the Metz School Principal and to him belongs the major share of the credit for initiating 4-H work in Steuben County.

Mr. Charles, a strong believer in practical education for boys and girls, was instrumental in having T. A. Parker employed as Vocational Agriculture teacher at Metz. In April 1918, Mr. Parker resigned as teacher to become County Agricultural Agent, succeeding A. G. Barrett in that position. Mr. Charles R. Hoffer, a Purdue graduate in Agriculture, was employed in April to complete the school term. It was he, with the active support and cooperation of Mr. Charles, who organized the first 4-H Clubs in Steuben County, in the summer of 1918.

Quoting from a letter to this writer written January 28, 1954, Mr. Charles states: "Since giving you some data on the organization of the first vocational agriculture school at Metz, we have dug up from the bottom of an old trunk, two early editions of the Metz School Annual 'Goldenrod.'" In an article in the 1919 "Goldenrod," it is stated: "When Mr. Hoffer arrived, school was out. It therefore became necessary to obtain the 4-H Club members on an individual (visit) basis. A meeting to explain Club Work failed. But eventually a Garden Club, a Pig Club, and a Poultry Club, were organized."

On July 3rd, 1918, the 4-H Clubs gave a com-

munity patriotic program. The meeting was well attended by parents and friends of the Club members. In cooperation with Principal T. P. Charles, a community motion picture show was given once a week during the summer of 1918. Thus we record the beginnings of 4-H club work in Steuben County.

### The Purposes

The purpose of 4-H Club work is to give all boys and girls, age 10 to 20 inclusive, an opportunity to develop proficiency in conducting meetings, develop useful farm and home skills, and a chance to exhibit the products of their handicraft at an annual 4-H exhibit.

Clubs, since the beginning, have been organized on a school, township or community basis, officially under the supervision of the County Agricultural Agent, as one phase of the County Extension program. The Smith-Lever Act of 1917 gave Federal approval of the 4-H Program.

The four-leaf clover is the official national emblem of 4-H work. Each green leaf contains the white letter H which represents Head, Heart, Hand and Health. Every 4-H member memorizes the following pledge: "I pledge my Head to clearer thinking, My Heart to greater loyalty, My Hands to larger service, My Health to better living for my club, my community and my country."

In Steuben County the adult leadership has been both voluntary and paid. In Indiana, Vocational Agriculture Teachers assume leadership of 4-H Clubs in their respective communities, although there is no legal requirement to do so. In many cases, Vocational Home Economics Teachers also serve as leaders but in a more limited way. However scores of adults in Steuben County have volunteered their services for 4-H leadership, organizing and meeting with their groups many times during the summer. To name them all would be an endless task. Many former 4-H members are now serving as adult leaders.

### Some Activities

Enrollment begins on January 1st each year in some agricultural clubs, and May 1st is the final enrollment date for all clubs. Activities include: 1. The election of officers and the holding of meetings, usually from 7 to 10 or more each year. 2. The selection of projects. 3. Participation in judging and demonstration contests. 4. Holding local and county project tours. 5. Attending a



District Club Camp and County and local picnics. 6. Attending a 10 day State Fair Camp, members elected on an achievement basis. 7. Earning tuition scholarships to Purdue and elsewhere. 8. Exhibiting their products at the annual 4-H Festival. 9. Holding an achievement meeting at the close of each 4-H year.

### Growing Up

From a very modest beginning with three clubs in one community in 1918, the 4-H program has expanded until today the members are located in every part of the County. There are few farm homes that have not had one or more 4-H members during the last 36 years. In Home Economics Clubs and many other new clubs of recent years, such as Electric, Entomology, Handicraft, etc., membership is as common from urban as from rural homes. Hundreds of farmers and farm wives as well as scores of adults living in urban centers, including business places, have volunteered their services as adult leaders in committee work, building construction, parking cars, erecting and taking down tents, clearing land and leveling ground, policing grounds, stringing electric lines, patronizing auction sales, performing annual health activities (veterinarians) donating special prizes, and doing a hundred other things necessary for successful 4-H programs, year after year after year.

Who will say that working together, side by side, of urban and rural folk has not been the most constructive social activity in Steuben County? Do you recall that Cary Covell was the first president of the Steuben County Farm and Home Association, serving in that capacity for several years, or that Ted Crain served as President for eight years from 1944-1951? Or, that Williamsons Hardware donated the use of their display window for crops exhibits for several years?

The keystone in the arch of 4-H work is the County Agent's Office. Beginning with A. G. Barrett in 1917, the County Agents, in order, have been: T. A. Parker, 1918-1922; S. A. Colliver, 1923-1928; T. M. Grabill, 1937-1945; Emerson Myers, 1945-1947; Richard Haworth, 1947-1954 and Harold Nelson, 1954-. From 1928-1937, in the absence of a County Agent, the 4-H work was largely the responsibility of the Vocational Agriculture and Home Economic teachers, with the Farm Bureau, County Chamber of Commerce, Home Economics

Clubs, the Old Fair Board and other organizations giving the necessary support and cooperation.

Exhibits of 4-H projects were made in conjunction with the Steuben County Fair each year on the "Old Fair Grounds," later purchased by Harcourt Sheets.

In 1933 the Fair Board ceased to exist. There was, then, no legally constituted body to which county appropriations for 4-H purposes could be made. Born out of necessity, therefore, was the "Steuben County Farm and Home Association," a non-profit corporation which still functions as the legally constituted body for receiving and distributing public funds and performing other services incident to 4-H activities.

The articles of incorporation for this organization were signed by Morris Hansen, Willis K. Batchelet, and Clayton Elliott. The date of incorporation was July 7, 1934, and the first directors, in addition to the above named persons, were: I. E. King, Powers Luse, Cary Covell, and Frank Strock. The purposes of incorporation as stated were: "1. to develop an interest in good farming and good homemaking by encouraging the production of high quality products on the farm and in the home. 2. To plan for, and hold, an annual exhibit of farm and home products. 3. To encourage Vocational and 4-H Club activities in the public schools of Steuben County."

This same year, 1934, on October 8th and 9th, was held the "Greatest of Northeastern Indiana Free Fairs" on the "Old Fair Grounds." It was the first Farmers Picnic and 4-H Fair combined and was sponsored by the County Chamber of Commerce, and Vocational Teachers and 4-H Club leaders. Features were the Farmers and Merchants Parade down West Maumee to the Mound and then out North Wayne to the Fair Grounds—almost a mile long, and the American Legion Drum Corps exhibition. Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, was the principal speaker, speaking from a rostrum in front of the old grandstand. Mr. Wallace arrived by plane at the Eyster Airport, welcomed by a committee composed of Clyde Carlin, Ray Willis, Willis Batchelet and others. This writer made a very fast trip to the airport, taking Kenneth Meyers to help out with the official greeting. Kenneth had been awarded the American Farmer Degree in the Future Farmers of America and had been elected State President that year. Mr. Wallace was introduced by Mr. H. J. Reed,

Assistant Dean of Agriculture at Purdue University.

Many enthusiastic 4-H workers were somewhat disappointed that Mr. Wallace chose to address, not youth, but adults on national farm policies and programs.

At this first Farmers Picnic and 4-H Fair, Wade Libey did the crops judging, Ivan Bell, County Agent of Williams County, Ohio, judged the Live-stock, and Mrs. Hostetler of LaGrange judged the girls' projects.

In the parade, on that occasion as well as other occasions, many will remember Imo Smith on his high-wheel bicycle, the team of oxen from Orland, the "elderly" couple in the "horse and buggy" mode of transportation, as well as the dozens of fancy floats and pretty girls. Ray Alwood served as Parade Marshal on this and other parade occasions.

Since, this year, a request for appropriations to cover the 4-H expenses was not filed by the closing date, a note for \$400.00 to provide necessary funds was signed by Morris Hansen, Frank Hammond, C. H. Elliott, Harold Lockamire, Forest VanPelt, Cary Covell, Willis Batchelet, Cloyde Murray, Martha Young, and Ernest Blair. The money was used to pay 4-H premiums and other expenses.

From about 1918 to 1931, all 4-H exhibits were made at "The Old Fair Ground" on Road 27,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile north of Angola. In 1937-38 under the leadership of T. M. Grabill, the newly appointed County Agent, after many meetings and much serious (very serious) discussion by responsible parties and organizations, it was finally decided not to purchase the "Old Fair Ground" which had been offered for sale. Even today many loyal and sincere friends of 4-H maintain that a big mistake was made, that the "Facilities for holding a 4-H Fair were already there and the price asked was a bargain," and so on ad infinitum. The decision was made, nevertheless, in a democratic way by responsible parties to transfer the location of annual 4-H exhibits to the then undeveloped County Park, permission to do so having been granted by the County Commissioners, who were: Emmett B. Chard, John O. Matson, Theron E. Miller.

On August 24-25, 1938, therefore, and continuing for a period of ten years, the annual 4-H Exhibit was held in several rented tents on the bluff overlooking the east shore of Crooked Lake. Only those who had a hand in erecting and taking down

tents, constructing tables, stalls, booths, providing water and electricity, etc., have an appreciation of the amount of planning and work required. Necessity really became the mother of invention. Many of us well remember the rain and windstorm that blew down several of the tents one year; quite a mess!

In 1946, with Ted Crain as President, plans were made to construct a permanent exhibit building in the grove at the south end of the County Park. One hundred twenty-five farmers agreed to donate timber and others volunteered to help erect such a building. As it turned out, Roy Akers began the task of sawing logs into framing and siding lumber. Frank Rose completed the sawing operations. Both men donated their services.

Promises of help were kept and the first 4-H building was partly completed and used for the first time in 1947. The building was dedicated by Dean H. J. Reed of Purdue University. It is estimated that over 3000 people attended this ceremony. The Vice President of the Farm and Home Association was Wade Libey, and John Glasgow was Secretary-Treasurer, and for a number of years County Agent E. E. Meyers gave valuable leadership, and was an ex-officio member of all working committees.

In 1951 the Sheep and Swine building was completed and ready for use. In 1953 the Dairy building was built and used for the first time. On August 2nd and 3rd, 1954, the Show and Sales Shed was erected with volunteer help.

With the exception of building No. 1 for which time was donated for the most part, county appropriations have been used for the purchase of materials of construction, but the necessary labor has been largely volunteer. The Albion Production Corporation with Carol Glasgow as the Steuben County manager, gave \$250.00 toward the construction of the Show and Sales Shed.

The following chart presents in a condensed outline form, the story of the 4-H work to date:

Years	Supervision	Location
1918-1928	County Agent Vocational Teachers County Farm Bureau	Fair Ground
1928-1933	Chamber of Commerce Vocational Teachers Home Economics Clubs "Old" Fair Board	Fair Ground



1934-1936	Vocational Teachers of Steuben County Farm and Home Association, other organizations cooperating	Fair Ground
1937	County Agent Farm and Home Association	Fair Ground
1938-1954	Same as above Farm and Home Con- stitution revised in '52.	County Park

It is hazardous to begin naming people who nurtured the 4-H program during the "growing up" period. However, at the risk of unintentionally omitting the names of some who should be included and with counsel from some of the "old heads" who grew up with the program, the following list of names is presented. These and scores of others will neither expect nor receive compensation for their time, labor, and financial backing, unless it is an inner feeling of satisfaction in having had a hand in helping boys and girls become good citizens. The list includes: Theodore (Ted) Crain, John Meyers, Theron Miller, Ben Sams, Willis K. Batchelet, Ed. Spade, Cary Covell, Rho Butler, Ora Butler, Mrs. Ruby Hershey, Morris Hansen, Raymond (Runt) and Dale VanWagner, Roy Sanders, Worthy Crowl, Cecil Lepley, Jack Deller, Edgar Buell, Eshu Tritch, E. J. Ries, John Matson, Paul Bachelor, County Agents Merle Grabill, E. E. Myers, and Richard Haworth, Wade Libey, Tom and Mark Crain, Kenneth, Harold, and Bill Meyers, Charlie Carr, Harold Kratz, Weir Snyder, Chas. Grosbeck, Ora Cole, Byron Young, Milton Seehawer, Ralph Baker, Mrs. Roscoe Warring, Preston Moody, Ernie Halsey, Carl Peachey, John Glasgow, Ernest Young, Bob Morley, Harold Lockamire, Dean Halsey, Richard Latier, Gunnar Gunnerson, Oscar Imhof, Floyd Carpenter, the Presidents of the County Home Economics Club, and then last but by no means least, Baker Bryant, and Roscoe Deller. The latter two were Presidents of the Steuben County Farm and Home Association and it was largely through the initiative, planning, and efforts of these two men and their Boards that the Dairy Barn and Show and Sales Shed were constructed.

As values of the program became evident, more and more boys and girls enrolled. However, with no county agent after 1928 and consequently no centralization of effort, enrollments tended to de-

crease until 1936, when there were only ninety boys and ninety girls enrolled. Two years later, Mr. Grabill having been employed as County Agent in 1937, the enrollment increased 300% to a total of 540. In 1954 there were 313 boys and 372 girls engaged in from one to as many as eight projects each.

### On Our Way

The number of 4-H Club activities has increased from a modest three in 1918 to a total of thirty in 1954. The list includes: corn, oats, wheat, soybeans, alfalfa, onions, apples, dairy, beef, sheep, swine, poultry, broilers, rabbits, garden entomology, wildlife, forestry, soil conservation, bees, farm shop, electricity, handicraft, canning and frozen foods, food preparation, clothing, baking, home improvement, and Junior Leadership.

In addition, Steuben County can also take pride in providing for use, education, or entertainment the following facilities and activities:

1. A beautiful, rolling 4-H Festival grounds at the County Park, with adequate shade, lake front and natural amphitheatre.
2. Four permanent buildings, one of which is in use on many occasions throughout the year.
3. Good water and electric facilities.
4. A Baseball diamond, and at the annual Festival:
5. Exhibits of all Club Activities.
6. Wholesale concessions provided by local organizations.
7. Numerous commercial exhibits.
8. Entertaining, educational and religious programs.
9. A tractor pulling contest.
10. A tractor rodeo for trained boys.
11. Auction sale of 4-H projects.
12. Scores and scores of people who cooperate to get the job done.

### Acknowledgement:

The task of writing up the "Rural Organizations" section of the Steuben County History, could not have been done without the cooperation of many individuals. Assistant Editors prepared all, or practically all, of the material on the following topics: Farm Bureau, Mrs. Isaac Eyster and T. I. Ferris; Rural Youth, Mr. and Mrs. Max Huss; Alpha Club, Mrs. Villa Crain with the help

of her daughter, Grace Crain; Beta Club, Shirley Beard; and Grange, Ed. Lautzenheiser and Ruhl Ransburg. For their assistance the writer is deeply grateful.—C. H. Elliott, Associate Editor for Rural Organizations.

### THE ALPHA FARMER'S CLUB

The Alpha Farmers' Club was organized January 4, 1900. This first meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Dutter and included: Mr. and Mrs. Silas Williams, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Crain, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Huber, and Mr. A. E. Emerson. Mrs. Emerson was unable to be present at the meeting.

Six days later a second meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Silas Williams and was attended by the original membership and in addition, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Crain, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Boyers, Mr. and Mrs. John Harpham, Mr. and Mrs. T. I. Ferris, Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Lewis, and Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Parsell. Mr. A. E. Emerson was chosen as the first President, Mrs. Silas Williams as Vice-President and Mrs. F. G. Robertson as Secretary and Treasurer.

The object of the Club was for the social and literary advancement of its members. Meetings were held monthly. Religion and politics were two topics that were not to be discussed at the meetings.

The fiftieth anniversary was held honoring the Charter Members at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl McClue in January of 1949. At this time there were six loyal charter members present: Mrs. Hiram Crain, Mrs. C. M. Crain, Mr. and Mrs. T. I. Ferris, Mr. John B. Parsell and Mr. W. J. Huber, who gave the program. No one will ever forget the wit, differences of opinion and interestingly told stories of the good times enjoyed by the members at the early meetings of the club. Mrs. Max Huss and Mrs. Ralph Newnam were assisting hostesses with Mrs. McClue, for the very enjoyable affair.

The Club was established not only for social and literary advancement but for the interest taken in viewing the nice farms, equipment and homes of the members to where the transportation was by means of horse and buggy. During the summer time meetings the children attended and the Farmers' Club day was an anticipated event.

There are three of the original members living: Mrs. C. M. Crain, Mrs. F. G. Robertson of Guilford College, North Carolina, and Mr. T. I. Ferris. Mrs. W. J. Huber became a member at a later date.

The present officers are: President, Clarence Miller; Vice-President, Carl McClue; Secretary and Treasurer, Helen Downing.

### BETA FARMERS' CLUB

Prominent in the organization of the "Beta Farmers' Club" was Seth S. Avery and Amro Avery. There is no present record of the exact date of its beginning, but first on the membership roster are Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Chard, in 1912. Following is a list of the still active members: Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Killinger, (1929), Mr. and Mrs. Clare Mallory, (1937), Mr. and Mrs. John Meyers, (1940), Mr. and Mrs. Carl Stroh, (1946), Mr. and Mrs. Preston Moody, (1948), Mr. and Mrs. Ivor Covell, (1949), Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Brooks, (1952) and Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Fifer, (1953.)

#### Present Officers

President, Mr. Carl Stroh; Vice-President, Mr. Gerald Brooks; Secretary, Mrs. Preston Moody; Treasurer, Mrs. Emmett Chard; Pianist, Mrs. Charles Gilbert.

#### Program Committee

Mr. and Mrs. Ivor Covell, Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Beard, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Killinger.

#### Flower Committee

Mr. and Mrs. John Meyers, Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Fifer.

#### Honorary Members

Mrs. Alice Moody, Mrs. Pearl Weiss, Mrs. Inez Mortorff, Mrs. Ruby Hershey, Mrs. Myrtle Learned, Mrs. Cora Harmon, Mrs. Daisy Stevens, Mrs. Jessie Stroh, Mr. George Neutz, Mr. Seth Avery, and Mr. and Mrs. Amro Avery.

#### In Memoriam

Mrs. Amro Avery, Clair Gettings, James Moody, Bert Stevens, Bennet Stroh, Mrs. George Neutz, Fred Weiss, Amro Avery, Jay Learned, Frank Harmon, Russ Hershey, Walter Mortorff.

Following is a list of those families who have held membership, but on account of death in the family, or resignation, are no longer able to take any active part in the activities of the organization: Mr. and Mrs. Albert Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. Amro Avery, Seth S. Avery, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Crow, Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey Folck, Mr. and Mrs. Burr A. Gates, Mr. and Mrs. Clair Gettings, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harmon, Mr. and Mrs. Morris



Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Henney, Mr. and Mrs. Russ Hershey, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hull, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Learned, Mr. and Mrs. John I. Metz, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Rinehart, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. Bennet Stroh, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Teegardin, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Weiss, Mr. and Mrs. Cassius Zimmer, Mr. and Mrs. John Zimmer, Mr. and Mrs. Max Smathers, Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Johnson.

Four things a man must learn to do  
If he would make his record true;  
To think without confusion clearly,  
To love his fellow men sincerely,  
To act from honest motives purely,  
To trust in God and Heaven securely.

—Van Dyke.

#### HAMILTON GRANGE NO. 2109

The National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry of which the Hamilton Grange No. 2109 is now an integral part, holds December 4th, 1867, as the birthday of the Grange. Three Granges, Potomac Grange at Washington, D. C., set up as a practice Grange; Fredonia Grange, the first working Grange; and the South's first Grange, located in Missouri, were the most prominent early Granges and each of them are No. 1.

The Hamilton Grange received its charter in 1899 and organized with Marion Howard as the first Master and Levi Clark as Overseer. Some of the other early members were: Mr. and Mrs. Than Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. George Whaley, Mr. and Mrs. John Metz, Mr. and Mrs. Dorilas Teegardin, Mr. and Mrs. Adam Tintsman, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gurtner, Mr. and Mrs. Chappel, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Slentz, Edna Oberlin, Fietta Clark, Florence Kitteredge, Gordia Herrick, Alma Baker, Belle White, Dorcas Butts, Albert Butts, J. B. Lemon, William Fee, George Young and D. W. Hess.

The Hamilton Grange has met regularly every week since its organization, and is working, along with other Granges to promote the social and financial welfare of its members by securing legislation favorable to the farming industry. Along this line it has been largely or solely responsible for securing for rural people, the benefits of better Highways—Rural Mail delivery, which began its first operation in 1896 with three rural routes in West Virginia; now there are more than 30,000 routes; Parcel Post, Farm Credit, Rural

Electrification, Experiment Station and many other measures beneficial to rural people.

The Hamilton Grange strives to provide social activities for its members, and now has the following officers: Master, Cecil Parker; Overseer, Kenneth Holman; Steward, Arthur Lautzenhizer; Lecturer, Fred Alexander; Chaplain, Dora Lautzenhizer; Secretary, Prudence Ratts; Treasurer, Olus Everhart; Assistant Steward, Robert VanLuven; Lady Assistant Steward, Mrs. VanLuven; Gate Keeper, Floyd Parker; Ceres, Madonna Alexander; Pomona, Elizabeth Everhart; Flora, Alice Helman.

Steuben Pomona Grange No. 1 was the first Pomona Grange organized in Indiana and it was organized by the Hamilton Grange. The Hamilton Grange rented different halls in Hamilton from 1900 to 1938 when it purchased the building which it now occupies.

#### STEUBEN COUNTY RURAL YOUTH

First Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Baker—Manager of the Steuben County Farm Bureau Co-op.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Hansen—Chairman of the Steuben County Farm Bureau.

First Members of the Cooperative School 1934

Kenneth Meyers	Troas Carpenter
Arthur Goodrich	Esther Schaeffer
Wava Jean Alleshouse	Deloris Oberlin
Hannah Goodale	Wayne McClue
Roscoe Hall	Alice Skelton
Margaret Dunn	Deloss Fireoved
Forest VanPelt	Ross Dahuff
Ned Myers	Ruth Goodrich
Marguerite Baker	Jack Nisonger
Donald Sutton	Paul Lautzenhiser
Russell Brouse	Mrs. Harry Embody

The first Cooperative School was held at the Shady Nook Hotel at Lake Gage, August 6th to 11th. The School lasted one week, consisting of studying, lectures and etc., trying to better acquaint our young people with the cooperatives. First officers were: Chairman, Kenneth Meyers; Vice-Chairman, Russell Brouse; Secretary, Esther Schaeffer. Then each day a chairman for the day and a secretary for the day was appointed, with each of the members helping to take part in the day's program.

On the 11th of August the first officers for the year were elected as follows: Chairman, Kenneth Meyers; Vice-Chairman, Hannah Goodale; Secretary, Alice Skelton; with the next meeting to be held on the 31st day of August 1934 in the Mid-West Creamery in Angola, and with meetings held once a month under the name of "Older Youth Study Club."

The second Cooperative School was held at Lake James, August the 24th to the 29th, 1936.

In June 1937 the Older Youth Study Club moved their meeting place to the Crooked Lake School-house. Then in March 1938 they started to hold their meetings in the Angola High School Auditorium. In June 1938 they started to hold their meetings in the Crooked Lake School House. November 1939, the Club held their meetings at Potawatomi Inn as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Swenson. The last meetings in 1939 were held in the Boy Scout rooms in the IOOF Hall in Angola. At this time the roll consisted of:

Charlie Carr	Byron Gramling
Helen Warring	Mary Bolinger
Mary Sanders	William Cleveland
June Collins	Seymour Butler
Carroll Glasgow	Benson Everitts
Ralph Emerick	Earl Farver
Margaret Carr	Clarence Miller
Rose Harter	Alva Sellers
Stella Elston	Dale Somerlott
C. D. Lash	John Zimmerman
Otis Harter	Galen Eatinger
Herbert Harter	Robert Cleckner
Charles Neutz	Max and Charles
Paul Collins	Bachelor.

### Parts of the Present Day Constitution

#### Article 1

The name of this club shall be the Steuben County Rural Youth Club.

#### Article 2

The purpose of this club shall be to develop a balanced program of educational, recreational, and community service, which will inspire the rural youth of Steuben County.

Active membership of this club shall be confined to the young men and women who are actively interested in the objectives of this organization.

### Objectives

1. To develop rural leadership by affording an opportunity for self expression, and wholesome recreation.

2. To help rural young men and women to develop desirable ideals and standards for farming, homemaking, and citizenship and a sense of responsibility.

3. To bring about proper balance between social and economic activities, also to broaden and perfect philosophies of life.

4. To encourage better uses of income and home resources by discussing methods which will improve farming and homemaking.

5. Encourage the acquaintance of knowledge and a respect for cultural attainments.

6. To develop wider acquaintance of young people.

7. To better use our time and energy.

8. To advance cooperation in all types of human relationships and plan programs for the good of all concerned.

### Some of the Community Services Rendered by the Club in Present Years

1. Presented programs for the Township Farm Bureau meetings for several summers.

2. Given gifts to Welfare at Christmas to be distributed to needy families.

The meetings seemed to have stopped along about December 1939. (At least no record of any meetings after that time until about 1944.)

The objectives of the Older Youth Group were:

1. The object of the Junior Cooperative Study Club of Steuben County shall be to promote a cooperative education program.

2. It shall be our objective to cooperate with other cooperative units having like interests in the developing of township, county and state cooperative organizations.

There was some discussion at different times during the fall of 1944 concerning the advisability of organizing an older Youth Club in Steuben County. Miss Doris Hawkins of York Township was one of the leaders in the movement along with Mrs. Dessa Hanna, the County Social and Education Leader of Steuben County Farm Bureau. As a result of this discussion and interest, a meeting was held in the Angola High School Auditor-



ium on Monday evening, November 20, 1944. A large number of out-of-school young people were invited to attend this meeting in which the opportunities and objectives of Rural Youth Organizations work were presented by Mr. O'Hara and Mr. McReynolds of the Indiana Farm Bureau, Indianapolis Office.

As a result of the discussion which occurred during the meeting, it was decided to organize with a set of officers elected for a temporary period of three months; the newly elected officers consisted of Duane Rose, President; Roger Lautzenhiser, Vice-President; and Doris Hawkins, Secretary-Treasurer. It was agreed upon the first Thursday evening of each month for the regular meeting date of the organization.

#### Presidents Through the Years

1934 Kenneth Meyers	1947 Carlton Milleman
1935 Wayne McClue	1948 Ross Lacey
1936 Seymour Butler	1949 Donald Ireland
1937 Otis Harter	1950 Ervin Tilbury
1938 Otis Harter	1951 Betty Thrush
1939 Seymour Butler	1952 Donald Ireland
Ralph Emerick	1953 Richard Baker
William Hull	1954 Judy Stoy
1944 Duane Rose	1955 John Hughes
1945 Jack Clark	(newly elected Pres.)
1946 Rose Butler Clark	

#### Sponsors Through the Years

Farm Bureau Presidents and Social and Educational Leaders of Purdue Extension Office.

Also, other Farm Bureau Sponsors since 1951.

1951 Mr. and Mrs. Max Huss and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Buell.
1952 Mr. and Mrs. Max Huss and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Buell.
1953 Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Cole and Mr. and Mrs. Max Huss.
1954 Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Cole and Mr. and Mrs. Max Huss.

#### STEUBEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU

The first Steuben County Farm Bureau was organized in the year 1915. For considerable time there had been agitation in the county for a County Agent, and with that object in mind, many of the more progressive and up-to-date farmers of the county organized themselves into what they called a Farm Bureau, with their sole object the

securing of a county agent. Finally, their hopes were realized and the county board of education approved the appointment of Mr. O. G. Barrett. This organization was considered a temporary organization, and after Mr. Barrett took up his work here, an effort was made to develop the Farm Bureau and make a permanent organization to advise farmers in buying and selling. There were township officers set up over the county who comprised the executive board of directors. At a meeting in the County Agent's Office in Angola, during March, 1915, the following officers for the first County Farm Bureau were elected by the executive board: President, W. A. Sniff; Vice-President, Seth S. Avery; Secretary, O. G. Barrett; and Treasurer, Fred Weiss. Forty-eight members of the board were present. The county officers drew up the first constitution and By-Laws. To become a member, there was a fifty cent admission fee and an annual fee of twenty-five cents thereafter. Any citizen who was interested in the development of Agriculture was invited to belong.

The early organization was closely associated with the county agent with offices in the Court House until the office of County Agent was abolished in 1928. Through the efforts of Farm Bureau and other organized groups, the Extension Department was again established in 1937, but separately from Farm Bureau. However, the two worked closely in directing services effecting the welfare of farmers in general.

The Bureau today is one of the intermediate organizations of the American Farm Bureau which came into being in 1919. It is an organization of farmers, by farmers, and for farmers. It is a social, educational, tax, and legislative organization to do those things which the farmers cannot do as individuals. It is not engaged in commercial activities. Its affiliates handle commodities and provide marketing and insurance services.

The Steuben County Farm Bureau, as other County Farm Bureaus, is governed by the County Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, and the Social and Educational Director and the township Farm Bureau Chairmen and Social and Educational Directors from all organized townships.

This group is known as the Board of Directors, and meets the first Monday evening of each month, together with the Assistant County Social and Educational Director, the chairman of the Rural Youth, County Pet and Hobby Leader, County

Agent, Farm Bureau Insurance Agent, and Co-op Directors from unorganized townships. These meetings are open to the public, and anyone is welcome to present problems, ideas or changes in policy, to the board for their consideration and action. They are conducted in an orderly fashion, notices being sent out by the county secretary five days in advance. Each board member receives \$1.00 plus five cents mileage from his or her home and return, for services rendered to the organization.

The Board of Directors plan and conduct three county meetings each year. A notice of the same is sent to each member. Information on farm and civic problems, and entertainment are the theme of such gatherings. District, and State employees of Farm Bureau are available to speak at all county meetings, at no cost to the county organization. At the last county meeting of the year, in October, the officers for the county are elected, to serve for a one year term.

There are, in the year 1954, 1254 members of the Steuben County Farm Bureau. The membership dues per year, have been raised from time to time, until now with additional services added, and more extensive work undertaken for agriculture, the yearly dues are \$10.00 per year per family. This money is distributed in the following way: \$1.50 stays in the township organization, \$3.50 stays in the county and includes a monthly issue of the county Farm News paper, \$4.25 is sent to the State and includes a subscription to the Hoosier Farmer, the State Farm Bureau paper, and 75 cents goes to the American Farm Bureau and includes a subscription to the Nation's Agriculture, the National Farm Bureau paper.

The Administrative Board of the Steuben County Farm Bureau is composed of three members elected by the Board of Directors of the Steuben County Farm Bureau to serve for a term of three years, with one member being elected each year. The senior member serves as chairman of the Board. Their duties are to keep an orderly check on the activities of the County Farm Bureau Office, hire and replace office personnel, and to counsel with the County Insurance Agent in matters of Administering service to the public. 1954 members of this board are: Chairman—Thomas Hanselman, John (Jack) Groshon, and William Milleman.

During the early thirties, an urgent need was realized by farmers of Steuben County to put a curb on ever rising taxes, and more evenly dis-

tribute taxation. The first step was taken in this direction, in the State, at a County Farm Bureau meeting in the basement of the Christian Church in Angola. After the subject was discussed considerably, Ralph Baker, who was Steuben County Farm Bureau Co-op Manager, made a motion asking Farm Bureau to get behind a \$1.50 limitation tax law. Petitions were circulated by Farm Bureau Members. A total of more than 3700 farmers signed to back such a law. Thus the idea was spread over the state and a grand total of 45,000 names of farmers was presented to the Governor of the State, by the State Farm Bureau President, William Settle. The law was passed. The results were the Gross Income Tax Law. The interesting fact to note, being that the first movement, in this direction, began in a Steuben County Farm Bureau Meeting.

From time to time many acts and laws have been passed through the efforts of Farm Bureau which gave a direct benefit to agriculture. In 1935 Morris Hansen, a past County Farm Bureau chairman, and then recently retired from the State Senate, saw a vision of electrification for rural communities. Through the effort on his part together with many other interested men, a series of discussion meetings were held. The first glimpse of this project seemed almost impossible to achieve. But the idea was born, and with it came the desire for advancement, better and more modern living conditions, and the urge of economic progress. These were the reasons why the following Farm Bureau men signed the original bond to incorporate the Rural Electrification Corporation in Steuben County: Morris Hansen, Ralph Baker, Ora Butler, Floyd Ferrier, Theron Miller, Floyd Smith, Charlie Hall, Martin Hanna, C. B. Gregory, George Griffith, Jay B. Huss, Art Hayward, and Earl Schaeffer. The pictures of these pioneer Farm Bureau men in beginning the task of bringing this wonderful necessity to our county, hang as a memorial in the office of the Rural Electrification Building, at the south edge of Angola.

Since the Farm Bureau was an organization to benefit the entire family, the Social and Educational Department was introduced in 1926. Women through that branch of Farm Bureau have played many important roles in promoting and striving for the welfare of the rural child and youth, as well as agriculture itself.

Rural Youth clubs, for young people past high school age, have been organized by Farm Bureau.



Two Farm Bureau couples act as sponsors of Rural Youth each year. The 1954 sponsors are Mr. and Mrs. Max Huss, who have given many years of service in this capacity. Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Cole succeeded Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Buell. Mr. and Mrs. Buell had several years of service to their credit, with the Steuben County Rural Youth.

Pet and Hobby Clubs for pre-school age children of Farm Bureau families are very popular. Regular organized meetings are held during the adult Farm Bureau meetings, in separate rooms. This serves to entertain the children, as well as teach handicraft, games, and promote good fellowship and understanding. Seed of the State Flower, the zinnia, has been grown by the Pet and Hobby children, from seeds distributed by the State Farm Bureau. Contests are conducted on poster making. County ladies who have shouldered the responsibility of County Pet and Hobby Club Leaders, are: Mrs. Max (Martha) Huss, and Mrs. Viola McQuown.

Farm Bureau takes an active interest in the 4-H Fair. Each year a tent is erected where movies of all types are shown by Farm Bureau men. This entertains the grownups as well as the children.

Over a period of years a great many services are offered to the public in general. The Farm Bureau Co-operatives of the county with stores and mills at Angola, Pleasant Lake, Orland, Fremont and Helmer, offer to the farmers of the County, commodities at a saving. Patronage refunds are issued on merchandise purchased, in the form of stocks. These bear a regular rate of interest and are redeemable at death or if the holder moves to another shopping center. George Anstett has served the Farm Bureau Co-ops in Steuben County for the past 17 years, as manager. Branch stores have their manager under Mr. Anstett.

Another service which was instituted in 1925 is the Farm Bureau Insurance Service. This service is growing steadily. Mr. Martin Hanna wrote the first insurance policies on automobiles in Steuben County. Mr. Merle Grabill is the present county general agent and is assisted by William Fee. There are over 3000 policies owned by Farm Bureau members in this county. Insurance is written on automobiles, trucks, school buses, and trailer homes. Policies are available on life, hospitalization, and polio. Of course there are policies for fire and extended coverage and the farm liability, schedule liability, and workman's compensa-

tion. Since Mr. Grabill began his duties with the Steuben County Farm Bureau Insurance, the number of policies in force has been tripled. This is recommendation enough for the service.

Too much stress cannot be put on the efforts of the County Farm Bureau in continually striving to lower taxes, secure legislature beneficial to rural agriculture, and in protecting the rights and inherited privileges of country folks. In 1953 the Policy Executive committee was formed. The committee is headed by the county Farm Bureau chairman, Cecil Lepley. Its duties are to report to the members changes in laws, call for united efforts in contacting the congressmen for certain action which would better serve the farmer, and to watch for unwise bills and recommendations detrimental to agriculture in general. Other members in addition to the chairman of the committees are: Ralph Baker, Thomas Hanselman, Mrs. Glen Golden, Mrs. Ralph Newnam, and Robert Foster. If it does not damage or rob the rights and privileges of fellow men, Farm Bureau is for the legislature.

A great deal of time and effort has been spent on the part of the Steuben County Farm Bureau and the Social and Educational Department in particular, in promoting "Public Relations for Agriculture." Many dinners, tours, banquets, and various kinds of entertainment have been given the city friends and neighbors, to better acquaint them with the problems of farmers, and to likewise get a better understanding of general accomplishments of both the town and country people in this century. The good such efforts have done cannot be estimated, as there is no such measuring stick.

The first County Social and Educational Alumni dinner meeting was held at the 4-H park building at Crooked Lake in 1951. By-laws were adopted, officers elected, and annual meetings have been held in Angola during the first week in October each year since. County Farm Bureau leaders from the District, and local guests are invited to attend. Programs are entertaining, after the usual bountiful cooperative dinners. Presidents to date have been: Mrs. Roscoe Warring, Mrs. Kenneth Sellers, Mrs. Ralph Newnam, and Mrs. Max Huss.

Steuben County Farm Bureau sends delegates to all district Farm Bureau meetings, State and National Conventions, as well as special representatives to civic meetings. The County Farm Bu-

reau Chairman and County Social and Educational Director are members of the Extension Board of Directors of the County, by virtue of their office. Each receives notice of all meetings and has one vote.

The Steuben County Farm Bureau maintains an office in the north part of the Co-op building in Angola, open six days a week, with an office girl in charge. Membership dues, insurance premiums, and general information are handled through this office under the direction of the County Farm Bureau Insurance Agent, the Administrative Board, and County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

The Farm News, the County Farm Bureau newspaper, is published at Marion, Indiana, each month, and is received by all Farm Bureau families with a paid up membership. News of Farm Bureau, 4-H accomplishments, Rural Youth activities, Extension services, Home Economic meetings, as well as special interest articles, are published. County Co-ops, and Farm Bureau Insurance advertise through this medium. Steuben County reporters and editors to date have been: The Office Secretaries, Mrs. Robert Finicle, Mrs. Isaac Eyster, and Mrs. Glen Golden. This paper is constantly growing in popularity among those interested in agriculture.

Each year the Steuben County Farm Bureau sponsors an Amateur Contest. Contestants are sponsored by organized townships through eliminating programs in each township Farm Bureau meeting in June. The winner of the County elimination program, held in July, is sent, through the compliments of the County organization, to participate on the District Farm Bureau program at the Indiana State Fair, in Indianapolis. Cash awards are given to first, second, and third place winners at the County level. Many adults and young people have participated in these annual programs.

The Steuben County Farm Bureau boasts of having two people from this county who have given of their talents in higher fields of service in Farm Bureau. They are T. I. Ferris, who for many years was president of the Indiana Wool Growers Association, an affiliate of the Farm Bureau, and only recently retired from active responsibility in that capacity. The second, Mrs. Morris (Anna) Hanson, who was District Farm Bureau Secretary and Treasurer in 1932 and 1933, then efficiently served as counselor to Rural Youth and District

Social and Educational Director from 1934 to 1941. Much effort and time was devoted by Mrs. Hansen to the early Co-op Study Clubs and early organization of the Rural Youth.

Past Steuben County Farm Bureau Presidents are: T. I. Ferris, James Moody, R. J. Luse, Myrle Nisonger, Roy Rozell, Morris Hanson, Ora Butler, Floyd Ferrier, Robert Cleckner, Byron Gramling, Merle Grabill, Carol Glasgow, Carlton Milleman, and the present chairman, Cecil Lepley.

Past Social and Educational Directors of the organization are: Erma Wilson, Mrs. Kenneth (Ava) Sellers, Mrs. Byron (Eula) Shupp, Mrs. Russ (Ruby) Hershey, Mrs. Roscoe (Winifred) Warring, Mrs. Martin (Dessa) Hanna, Mrs. Kenneth (Gladys) Sellers, Mrs. Ralph (Lucille) Newnam, and Mrs. Isaac (Mildred) Eyster, the present director.

To add a finishing remark, one might say, the purpose of Farm Bureau is to provoke and encourage thought, to assume community responsibility, and to reflect necessity for, and the efficiency of, rural people. The heritage of the farmer demands of us an awakening to our destiny. Our organization asks from all, co-operative action and intelligent decisions. The Farm Bureau Policy—if it is good for agriculture, if it is sane and beneficial to the farmer, without damaging the rights and privileges of our fellow men, Farm Bureau will back it with honor and respect. In as much as we exalt our best, we are enhancing freedom and within that freedom, that right, all progress is made.

The present officers of the Steuben County Farm Bureau are:

Chairman .....	Cecil Lepley
Vice-Chairman .....	Thomas Hanselman
Secretary and Treasurer .....	
.....	Mrs. Carl (Mary) McClue
Social and Educational Director .....	
.....	Mrs. Isaac (Mildred) Eyster
Assistant—Social and Educational Director .....	
.....	Mrs. Glen (Neva) Golden
Membership Roll Captain .....	Dean Cary
Office Secretary .....	Betty Thrush

The first board of Directors of the Steuben County Farm Bureau was as follows:

Clear Lake—Cyrus Kint, President; Ray Throop, Vice-President; Carl Kint, Secretary; Warren Throop, Treasurer.



Jackson—F. N. Wilson, President; Lloyd Kilinger, Vice-President; S. U. Doudt, Secretary; Frank Jackson, Treasurer.

Otsego—K. C. Oberlin, President; Seth S. Avery, Vice-President; Jay Learned, Secretary; Glen Sweet, Treasurer.

Fremont—Irvin Brisker, President; Carl Peachey, Vice-President; Fred Lott, Secretary; Harry Strunk, Treasurer.

Scott—Frank Harman, President; Fred Weiss, Vice-President; Henry Carpenter, Secretary; Sol Nichols, Treasurer.

Millgrove—Jesse Lucas, President; E. C. Salisbury, Vice-President; C. H. Turner, Secretary; W. S. Amerman, Treasurer.

Jamestown — Elmer Vanguilder, President; Frank Brown, Vice-President, H. C. Burlingame, Secretary; Glen Brown, Treasurer.

Salem—A. E. Emerson, President; John Shumaker, Vice-President; J. B. Hayward, Secretary; Frank Phillips, Treasurer.

Pleasant—Will Sniff, President; Frank Robertson, Vice-President; Walter Ward, Secretary; Carl Redding, Treasurer.

York—Henry VanPelt, President; David Smith, Vice-President; Sanford McElhenie, Secretary; Dorsey Reese, Treasurer.

Richland—Wm. Kohl, President; Cyrus Allman, Vice-President; Monte Dewire, Secretary; N. E. Metz, Treasurer.

Steuben—T. I. Ferris, President; Arthur Miller, Vice-President; Jay Misner, Secretary; Frank Gilbert, Treasurer.

Let us lift up our eyes, that we may see a new hope, and a great blessedness for Agriculture.

### Short History of Steuben County Farm Bureau Cooperative Association, Inc.

*Compiled by R. A. Baker*

During the latter part of the year 1929 a group of farm solicitors headed by Carl C. Smith of Clear Lake Township undertook the work of organizing the farmers of Steuben County into a Farm Cooperative Organization for the express purpose of purchasing in volume their own farm supplies and also marketing their own products. As a result of their efforts, 200 farmers signed a blanket

bond for \$10,000.00. This bond was deposited at the First National Bank at Angola to be used as a cushion for the credit needs of the Cooperative. As soon as credit was established at the bank Mr. Smith and other cooperative leaders proceeded to arrange for the organization of the cooperative. A meeting of the bond signers was called for December 30, 1929, and was held at the Public Library Building in Angola. At this meeting the following board of directors was elected: S. B. Herl, Millgrove Township; Harold Kratz, Scott Township; E. E. Spade, Pleasant Township; Wm. Iddings, Jackson Township; George Wisel, Salem Township; T. I. Ferris, Steuben Township; T. R. Teegardin, Otsego Township; H. L. Gilbert, Richland Township; and Carl C. Smith, Director at Large.

At their organization meeting the board selected the following officers: Carl C. Smith, Chairman; E. E. Spade, Vice Chairman; T. R. Teegardin, Secretary-Treasurer. Executive Committee: Carl C. Smith, S. B. Herl, Theron Miller.

The board held its first regular meeting on January 8, 1930. It authorized the chairman to appoint a committee to study and work out a set of By-Laws and the Articles of Incorporation for the Cooperative, to be presented to the stockholders for their adoption. At this meeting the board selected Carl C. Smith as their first manager. Much credit is given Mr. Smith and the first board of directors for their foresight and wise decisions in laying a strong foundation for the cooperative to build on in later years. The Board decided to rent the R. J. Luse properties in the west part of Angola as the place to transact their cooperative business. A few years later these buildings were purchased by the cooperative and over the period of the last 25 years have been constantly improved to take care of the ever expanding business.

The board of directors authorized the hiring of five men to operate the first cooperative oil trucks in the County. The names of the five men were: H. S. Loney, Bert Nichols, C. C. Kaiser, Charles Warring, and S. B. Herl. To H. S. Loney goes the distinction of operating the first truck. In February, 1930, Mr. Loney left the new bulk plant with the first load of gasoline and kerosene. Mr. Loney's first sale was a quantity of kerosene to Carl and Maynard Stroh of Fremont. Later on the number of oil routes was reduced to four.

Prior to the organization of the Farm Bureau

Cooperative two farmer Cooperative Stock Companies had been in operation in the County; one at Pleasant Lake and one at Fremont. In August 1930, the Board approved of the merger of the Steuben Grain Company of Pleasant Lake with the County Farm Bureau Cooperative.

Carl Smith resigned as Manager after one year of service with the Cooperative. The Board then selected Ralph A. Baker of Fremont to take his place. To Mr. Baker fell the lot of piloting the Cooperative through the six depression years 1931 to 1937.

In February, 1933, the stockholders of the Fremont Cooperative Association voted to merge with the County Farm Bureau Cooperative. As a result of the merger of the Pleasant Lake and Fremont Cooperatives with the County Organization, the Cooperative activities of the County were consolidated under one management. In many ways this has proved to have been a wise move by the board of directors. It has eliminated other cooperative competition, increased volume buying, and has extended more efficient service to the farmers of the County.

Continuing the policy of further extending cooperative service to all areas of the county, the board decided to purchase the merchandise and facilities of the Orland Milling Company at Orland. This transaction was consummated during the latter part of the year 1933 and has most certainly proved to have been a wise move, as was also the purchase of the Steuben Coal Company in the early spring of 1937.

Mr. Baker resigned as Cooperative Manager April 1, 1937, and was succeeded by George Anstett, who has now completed his 18th year as Manager. Under Mr. Anstett's management the Cooperative has enjoyed a phenomenal growth. Under his wise management the Board has seen fit to continue to expand the facilities of the Organization. The policy of refunding the earnings of the Cooperative in common stock in place of cash has enabled this further expansion. During the year 1943 the Board authorized the establishing of a lumber yard at Angola and the following year the Campbell Elevator at Angola was purchased.

In January, 1952, the Helmer Elevator was purchased. The acquisition of this property has opened up another fertile territory for Cooperative service and has already proved itself to be a highly profitable venture.

During the year 1953 extensive improvements were made on the elevators at Fremont and Helmer. Also a new bulk feed plant was built at Angola. The delivery of bulk feed in the county has proved to be a step forward in handling feed, both at the feed mill and on the farm.

When the Cooperative was started 25 years ago about ten employees were on the payroll. Today our present payroll shows 58 employees. Of these 58 employees, only one started with the Organization 25 years ago. On May 1st of this year Mrs. Thelma Butler will have completed her 25th year of continuous employment. Mr. Anstett, our General Manager, is the next oldest employee in length of service, having completed 23½ years with the Cooperative.

63 county farmers have, during the past, served on the board of directors. Many of our early farm leaders worked day and night, attending meetings and visiting their neighbors, with little or no compensation. We know now that as these men view the results of the past they have been richly repaid for their efforts.

During the past 25 years the farmers of Steuben County have accumulated through their Cooperative a net worth of approximately \$700,000.00. The influence of the Cooperative has had a large part in building a higher standard of living for this farming community. It has paid out in wages to the residents of the County nearly \$7,000,000.00. It has paid out in cash refunds nearly \$400,000.00. It has paid out in stock refunds about \$650,000.00. Taxes paid in the last 25 years to Federal, State, and Local taxing units totals about \$200,000.00.

25 years ago our County Board of Directors saw the wisdom of joining with 90 other County Cooperatives in Indiana in forming a State Wholesale Cooperative. Through this Federation of Cooperatives our farmers now own a large supply depot at Indianapolis. They also own their own refinery and pipe line, which funnels their gasoline and fuel oils from the oil fields to the central part of Indiana. They own their own oil blending plant, four large fertilizer plants, largest grain Cooperative in Indiana, and a large feed mill at Hammond, Indiana.

We are sure the success of our Cooperative efforts have far exceeded the fondest dreams of the original incorporators. Our success of the future still rests with the farmer membership. We believe the farmers of Steuben County have learned the value of Cooperation.



## Steuben County Agricultural Fairs

Like most Indiana Counties, Steuben has always been interested in and has had its share of Agricultural Societies which established and conducted the County Fair exhibits. As early as 1855, Steuben showed that it was a progressive County by managing its own first Fair. Among the men prominent in the organization were: A. W. Hendry, George W. McConnell, Jacob O. Rose, and George Harding. Before the Civil War this Society had succeeded to the extent that it owned a nice small Fair Ground for so early a period, but it was ruined for such purposes when the railroad was constructed through the town of Angola in 1870.

Taking some excerpts from a paper written and read by F. Macartney, Secretary of the Fair Association in 1901, we find a brief history of the early period of the second effort of the Steuben County Agricultural Society to maintain a County Fair.

"In the year 1874 several citizens of Angola became interested in the subject of a County Fair for which a small amount of money was raised by subscription. A temporary organization was effected and a Fair was held in the Grove, called McConnell's Park." The undertaking proved to be a success.

About this time a new state law provided that every county that had such an organization could receive \$500 from the State in support of such an enterprise. The officers of that society were: A. W. Hendry, President; Lawrence Gates, Secretary; Frank Macartney, Treasurer. The Executive Committee was: Charles Chadwick, Calvin Powers, William G. Croxton, Clayton Mallory, S. W. Scoville. Directors were chosen from each township. The Fair that year (1874) was held September 29 and 30. The Society having no grounds, no charge could be made except for vehicles, which were charged 25 cents. The grounds belonged to George McConnell, so the halls and table had to be improvised quickly. Total receipts for the two days were \$357.54.

"During 1875 and the early part of 1876 meetings were held occasionally, committees were appointed and ground looked over but no decision was made until late in the summer of 1876."

In September of 1875 an Agricultural fair was held in Pleasant Lake, sponsored by the citizens of the southern tier of townships, Steuben, Otsego, and Richland, who had organized the Pleasant

Lake Agricultural society. "The purpose of which was to establish and maintain an Association for the promotion of Agriculture, Horticulture, and the Mechanical Arts." The committee in charge consisted of V. E. Simmons, Dr. T. E. Bierry, Secretary, A. Shaffstall; Samuel Carter, Wal Williamson, L. I. Matson, and S. W. Scofield. These Fairs were held in Simmons Park annually until 1879.

This was an unusually successful Fair. The farm produce and needlework were well exhibited. One year a husking match was an interesting feature. There were twelve contestants with fifty ears of corn allotted to each husker. Dan Hall of Otsego Township won first place in the contest.

"In 1876 the farmers to the north and west of Steuben Township organized and held a successful Fair. In 1877 the same Society held another Fair at Hunter's Trotting Park. The two days were ideal autumnal days. A large crowd enjoyed the excellent races and beautiful farm exhibits. This seemed to have been the end of this Society and later all interest centered at Angola."

No doubt the success, even though temporary, of this Fair in the rival town of Pleasant Lake and the ones in the north and west part of the County encouraged the Angola "Fair" minded men to organize their Agricultural Association and launch a County Fair before more time elapsed.

"However on the 19th day of August, 1876, a meeting was held in Angola when a preliminary organization was perfected and a committee was appointed to prepare Articles of Association. On the 25th day of August the committee reported to an adjourned meeting the Articles of Association which were adopted by the meeting and signed by the members present."

The committee appointed to draft a Constitution and By-Laws was: Joseph A. Woodhull, Frank Macartney, Henry P. Hathaway, Leander M. Sowle, and William G. Croxton. The Constitution consisted of nine Articles, herein briefly stated: "We, the undersigned, hereby associate ourselves together for the purpose of establishing and maintaining an Association for Agricultural and Horticultural purposes, for the promotion of mechanical arts and for the improvement of stock under the corporate name of the Steuben County Agricultural Association.

"The Capital Stock of said Association shall consist of ten thousand dollars to be divided into shares of twenty-five dollars each.

"The Treasurer shall give a bond in the sum of three thousand dollars to be approved by the Board of Directors before entering upon his duties. On the motion of O. W. Parish the report of the committee was accepted and on motion of Israel Kemery the Constitution was adopted. The report was then presented to the stockholders for reception of their signatures as follows: H. D. Wood, Frank Macartney, O. H. Leas, W. D. French, P. W. Russell, A. S. Sherwood, Joseph Butler, A. S. Moore, Joseph A. Woodhull, Israel Kemery, Robert V. Carlin, A. H. Brokaw, A. W. Hendry, William Wicoff, William G. Croxton, Edgar Field, T. F. Wood, M. F. Crain, K. Menzenberger, O. W. Parish, O. Carver, J. J. Kinney, L. M. Sowle, Horace VanAuken, E. Smith, J. W. Carter, Orin Sowle, N. P. Lewis, M. Barr, L. S. Aldrich, J. Stiefel and Son, and Lawrence Gates.

"As prescribed by the Constitution, the election resulted as follows: President, H. D. Wood; Vice President, William G. Croxton; Secretary, Lawrence Gates; Treasurer, Frank Macartney. The Directors elected were: A. S. Sherwood, L. M. Sowle, T. F. Wood, A. S. Moore, O. N. Parish, M. F. Crain, Horace Van Auken, Orin Sowle, V. E. Simmons, A. W. Hendry, O. H. Leas, and Joseph Woodhull."

At the first meeting of the directors of the Agricultural Association held August 21st, 1876, A. S. Sherwood was elected President of the Board and M. F. Crain was elected Secretary. The Board proceeded to elect an Executive Committee of A. S. Sherwood, William G. Croxton, Obediah H. Leas, Leander M. Sowle, and Henry Dutter.

"A choice of ground was made and preparation for work began at once. The ground had been heavily timbered, but in 1869 the large timber had all been cut off, leaving the small timber, underbrush, and briers to grow. On this unpromising site work was commenced late in August of 1876. In less than two months the ground was partially cleared, a half mile track constructed, nearly a mile of eight foot board fence built and the building later known as the Agricultural Hall, was put up and finished. The first Fair was held October 18th to 20th, 1876, and considering all circumstances, it was a decided success. About \$3,000 had been expended on the grounds, fences, and buildings.

"The grounds comprised 33½ acres of land and was bought on contract for \$2,000 but nothing was paid down. In 1877 the east building, now known as Mechanics Hall, and the grandstand, were erect-

ed at an expense of about \$1,000. A string of horse and cattle stalls and sheep pens were also built.

"In 1878 a deed was taken for the ground, \$200 was paid on the purchase and a mortgage given for \$1,800 drawing 10% interest. In 1879 another payment was made on the mortgage, as assignment was secured with a lower rate of interest. In November, 1882, the mortgage was fully paid and discharged.

"In 1883 the secretary's office was built at an expense of about \$200, and in 1884, a large number of horse stalls, sheep and hog pens, besides a power hall were built. In 1885, the hay barn, costing \$250 with additional stalls and pens was built. In 1886 the Floral Hall, costing \$635, Dining Hall, \$530, Ladies Room, \$215, twenty-one more horse stalls costing \$235, were built and repairs made on the Mechanic's Hall costing \$149, in all \$1,755, was expended on buildings in one year.

"Upon the organization of the Society in 1876 stockbooks were opened and subscriptions solicited. Within a few months about 120 shares of stock were sold and paid for. The income from stock seemed to stop then, and in 1879 the Society was on the verge of bankruptcy. At that time a scheme was adopted by which a majority of the stockholders were induced to double their stock, they having the benefit of dividends previously declared. By this means stock certificates were issued up to 209 shares. The Society has since redeemed and cancelled 13 shares leaving 196 shares in force. A cash dividend of 8% or two dollars on each share of stock was declared in 1887. This is the only cash return the stockholders have ever received for their investment of money 25 years ago.

"The Fairs held by this organization from 1876 to 1892, with two exceptions, paid all expenses, keeping up all repairs and improvements. The premium lists and other expenses were constantly on the increase but in 1893 a reverse came. The attendance dropped off and the income in other ways was crippled. A succession of bad years followed until 1897 when the Society was in debt not less than \$1,800. As the only salvation from bankruptcy, premiums and all other expenses were cut down to the lowest possible limit. The officers made every effort to regain their financial standing and the result has been a series of very successful and profitable Fairs. The condition of the grounds and buildings has been maintained, the debt has been paid, and we have a creditable balance in the treasury.



"The continued success of the Association is largely the result of unpaid labor on the part of the officers and members. Much praise is also due to many friends outside who have contributed to the exhibits and have generously given time and labor to make each Fair a success. In the long experience of this Society, it has never repudiated a debt or pro-rated a premium."

"Upon motion the foregoing paper was received and it was ordered that the same be spread upon the record with proceedings of this meeting. Also a motion was made by J. A. Woodhull and seconded by C. D. Chadwick that the sum of \$25 be presented to F. Macartney as compensation for splendid service rendered to the Society during the year 1901."

The following few paragraphs and quotations, taken from the minutes kept by the various secretaries of the Organization, are items briefly told concerning the early Fairs.

The Board instructed the "Executive committee to proceed with the work of fitting the grounds for the purpose of holding a Fair during the present autumn of 1876." Many meetings were held to solve the problems and to carry out necessary plans to have the first Fair properly organized. The Board adjourned to meet on Wednesday, August 30th, at "seven P. M. sharp." The next meeting was held on September 2nd, at "4 P.M. sharp," and the next one on September 5th at "7 P.M. sharp." On and on they met, determined to launch a well founded Fair representing Steuben County, and one to endure through many years to come. Many more meetings were held during the few weeks that remained until the time for the Fair to open. Many appointments were made: "the marshals for the three days;" and the privilege extended to hacks or carriages, "plying back and forth from town to the Fair Grounds for the purpose of carrying passengers to the grounds at all times during the Fair. The following considerations were made: two horse vehicles, the sum of five dollars will be charged, and the sum of ten dollars for a four horse hack."

"Many other concessions and rights had to be let. A motion was made that the exclusive rights for an eating stand, to be located on the grounds, be sold to James W. Carpenter for the sum of \$50.00. The motion was carried, but reconsidered, and the President was authorized to appoint one man whose duty it shall be to sell rights and privileges for the erection of, and pursuing the legiti-

mate business for saloons and huckster shops, candy stands, and all such things as shall be thought admirable upon the grounds during the coming Fair." M. F. Crain was appointed to locate eating and candy stands. "The question of permitting rights for liquor and gambling joints on the ground aroused intense feeling and a lively discussion followed."

On the appointed days the First Steuben County Fair was held and from reports it was a successful undertaking. Premiums, awards, and diplomas were presented to those persons entitled to the same, if called for by December 31st.

On November 18, 1876, the Board of Directors met to review the results of the new project and to allow bills. "To the Angola Silver Cornet Band for services, was allowed \$82.72." Other early bills were allowed to the amount of \$419.06.

At this same meeting a set of By-Laws was presented to the Board by Joseph A. Woodhull: "with the advice of the Secretary, the President shall issue complimentary tickets to the Editors of the Newspapers and Officers of like associations, but to no other persons whatsoever." "The Secretary shall issue annually a pass for each share of stock to the holder, thereof, as shown by the records, etc."

In the minutes of November 16, 1878, after the third successful Fair had been held, the Executive Committee was authorized to expend a sufficient sum to provide the necessary buildings for the better accommodations of cattle, sheep, and swine, anticipating the 1879 Fair. Also in these minutes is found where a 15% dividend was declared to be placed to the credit of persons entitled to the same. The Executive Committee also reported at this meeting that they audited and allowed accounts to the amount of \$1098. At this time Clayton Mallory was the Chairman of the Board.

Each year races became more important and purses offered were such as \$75, \$50, and \$25 for three minute races. Also the Secretary, Ben F. Dawson, was allowed \$50 as a reward for his services. Some of the expenses of October 27th, 1879, meeting are allowed as follows: premiums, \$1139; interest, \$140; work on buildings \$225; while some receipts were: gate fees, \$1493; grandstand, \$114; rights and privileges, \$230.

By the time of the 1882 Fair the committee had worked out in detail the various classes for displays: stock of all kinds, sheep of any age, fat

hogs, any age or breed; Plymouth Rocks, \$5.00 for a display of not less than six coops; even bee hives for securing honey, handling and transferring bees. Other displays were farm wagons, jointer plows and general purpose plows; wind mills for pumping water, fruits and vegetables of all kinds. The display of canned goods, from elderberry wine to catsup and cranberries was the largest of any year. The beautiful fancy work was in abundance, with premiums of 10 yards of linen toweling and table linen.

Each year brought new and better exhibits, races, and improved management. This year the Northeastern Indiana Agricultural Association met to accept and observe the same rules in common Fair Associations consisting of Waterloo, Kendallville, and Angola. "It was moved and seconded that for the Fair of 1885, all school children, teachers, and trustees of schools be admitted free on Wednesday, October 14th, and that \$25 be appropriated by the Association to be divided into premiums to be paid for exhibits in the school department.

Also the Committee met shortly before the Fair date to "consider the propriety of having a balloon ascension at the Fair. Prof. Fisk was present and submitted the proposition. The Committee voted unanimously for it if Prof. Fisk could give the balloon ascension for \$65, to be made either Thursday or Friday P.M. according to the weather."

By December of 1887, Secretary F. Macartney presented his report, having a financial balance of \$338, having received \$2,597 as gate receipts, rights and privileges \$510, making a total of \$4,063, and an expenditure of \$3,675. "The subject of games of chance was again discussed and was ordered by the Board to be prohibited on the Fair Grounds."

In the minutes the following notes on the Fair of September 24th, 1889, were noticed. "The day opened cold and rainy with an attendance the least it had been for many years. The weather continued cold and windy but the show cattle were beyond anything ever seen on the grounds before. Horses were not nearly as numerous as of last year, though sheep, hogs, and poultry were far ahead of any former years." There was a poor display of fruits and vegetables with the exception of apples and canned fruits in the Agricultural Building. Extra premiums were awarded; \$5.00 to E. Bradum for a display of native woods, and \$4.00 to J. E. Walters for premium on sheep. Too, several awards were made to Jerry Dutter for his display of grapes. Due to the unpleasant weather

the receipts from the Fair were much less—\$2,991, with expenditures amounting to \$2,727.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders on the 26th day of December 1892, was held with Peter W. Russell as President. The Secretary, Harmon L. Hutson, submitted his annual report. The meeting proceeded to the election of officers to serve for the ensuing year: President, Lawrence Gates; Secretary, Harmon L. Hutson; Treasurer, Henry Linder. The Directors were: Joseph A. Woodhull, Myron Powers, John Harpham, Jr., William Wicoff, A. D. Parsell, Horace VanAuken, Peter Stimson, Leander Chase, Theodore R. Gilbert, George W. Gilbert, I. D. Geller, and George Coggeswell. A meeting was then called to order and the following persons were chosen as an executive committee: William G. Croxton, Orville Carver, Henry Linder, J. J. Kinney, and Isaac Williamson.

On June 5, 1897, the Board of Directors met to talk over a new phase of interest and attractions. A committee was appointed, consisting of William G. Croxton, William Wells, D. R. Best, and Orville Carver, to arrange for the speed program—horse races and a new attraction in bicycle races. Prizes for the races to exceed not more than \$900, and prizes for the bicycle races in the aggregate for \$30 were offered.

For the next few years the Fairs of the County prospered and Steuben County Agricultural Society received its share of good times. During the years from 1903 to 1905 the gate receipts were from \$2,969 to \$3,256. The officers were: President, Clyde C. Carlin; and Secretary, Orville Goodale. For the Fair of 1913, C. A. Redding was the President and Austin Parsell was the Secretary. That year the gate receipts were at the peak of all the years—\$4,162. The last report found in the secretary's book was for the Fair of 1930 presented by Ed. Kolb, President; and Frank Hughes, Secretary. The receipts from gate and concessions amounted to \$10,000 and the expenditures almost the same. The receipts were the most of any year on record.

Continuing with the Fair of 1914, the officers elected were: C. A. Redding as President, and A. E. Elston as Secretary.

The Directors decided to discontinue the county races and put on Field Day Sports for Wednesday, October 7th. In the minutes of August 10th the "secretary was ordered to contact Art Smith or some other good Aviator for Flying Exhibitions for the October Fair." No further mention was made of this contact suggestion.



"One of the contests at the County Fair that attracted much attention and acclaim was the fruit cake baking contests. They were sponsored by Harvey W. Morley, owner of the Angola Herald. He gave many prizes. The first prize was a piano. Barbara Dodge (Crankshaw) won one piano. Mrs. Royal Carpenter was awarded the first prize, also a piano, the following year. This was about 1920 or 1921. The judge the year that Mrs. Carpenter won was the famous Mrs. Rohrer, who was a writer for the Ladies Home Journal. For many years Mrs. Rohrer was cook at the White House.

"Mr. Morley thought it would be fine to have such a noted woman at a reception at Tri State College. That was one of his greatest errors, for the reception was AFTER the judging. There was only one winner, and scores of disappointed ones did not then look upon Mrs. Rohrer as a talented one. Mr. Morley kept all the winning fruit cakes, and there were 42 of them, but when the top of his house burned off, about 1930, there were still many in the attic. As fruit cakes improve with age, the Morleys thought that a major loss."

By 1929, the Officers were again C. A. Redding, President; A. E. Elston, Secretary; and the Treasurer, Frank Zabst. In 1930, the Officers elected were: Burl Hughes, President; and Frank Hughes, Secretary. From the Steuben County papers January 1931, the following is quoted: "Ed Kolb Heads Fair Board. At the adjourned meeting of the Stockholders of the Steuben County Agricultural Association held Monday afternoon, the following officers named were elected: Ed Kolb, President; C. A. Redding, Vice President; and Frank Zabst, Treasurer."

"The following were chosen Directors: R. J. Carpenter, C. A. Redding, Enos Parsell, A. E. Jackson, A. E. Elston, Joe Brokaw, Will Hutchins, Frank Zabst, E. S. Croxton, Jesse Crampton, J. B. McCool, Ronald Owens, and Fred Emerson. The Directors will meet to select a secretary. The matter of a date for the 1931 Fair was discussed informally but no action taken until the dates of the other Fairs could be ascertained."

With new Officers and Directors elected, the Fair of 1931 took on a change of dates and plans for the five day attractions. The former date, the first week in October, was changed to the Labor Day Week, the first week of September.

On Sunday of this week the Fair Gates were opened wide at 12 noon, free to every one, that they might hear Billy Sunday, the Evangelist, famous the world over at that time. Later in the afternoon a Drum Corps competitive concert was given. Well known Concert Bands, High School and local Bands, and those from neighboring towns entered their organizations in this competitive concert. On Monday there were races as usual but the outstanding feature was a Music Festival given through the assistance of the Conn Band and Instrument Factory of Elkhart. The Judges for this unusual attraction were the same persons acting in the capacity as Judges of the Chicago Music Festival held annually at Soldier's Field in Chicago.

This year the premium list was discontinued and the 4-H Organization of the County took the places for the farm and other exhibits for which the County Commissioners assisted in giving awards. This was a successful Fair and the attendance was exceptional but the year 1931 closed the era of the old fashioned County Fairs sponsored by the Steuben County Agricultural Society. This organization had a reputation for presenting a first class Fair but the times were fast changing and there were too many well established Fairs which were too accessible with the prevalence of speedier automobiles. Fifty miles could be traveled in a third of the time that eighteen miles was covered by horse and carriage twenty years before. Some organizations had to give way to the more permanently established autumn Fairs. Thus the Steuben County Agricultural Fairs became "a Vanished Institution."

For a few years this well equipped Fair Ground served as a splendid location for the displays and attractions put on by the 4-H Clubs of Steuben County. Later the property was sold to Harcourt Sheets.

# Military History

## The Monument

*Jeanette Pollock Holderness*

The things of beauty that greet the eyes of the hundreds of thousands who pass through Steuben County every year, leave something lovely to long remember. Of the loveliness of Steuben County, I could write a book. But this chapter is to be about the Monument, only one of the many outstanding beautiful sights that greet the travelers who come from every state in the union year after year to enjoy and marvel at the beauty that lies within the boundaries of old Steuben.

This monument stands in the center of the business district of Angola. This spot was formerly called the "mound" but in recent years it has been renamed "Monument Place." It is beautiful in its majestic simplicity. It is said to be one of the most impressive monuments in the entire nation.

Data to be found on the ways and means whereby this monument became a reality, records that the money was raised through a tax levy from the County budget. Other amounts were contributed by private donors and groups of various kinds. One amount was given by a group of local young people calling themselves "Our Home Talent Players." These young hopefuls were giving a play in the Old Croxton Opera House on "Old Settlers Nite"—which was also the night before the dedication of the monument. As a publicity stunt, plus the promise that the local newspapers would run the ad for the show, free—the cast agreed to donate one fourth of the proceeds to the monument fund. The show played to a packed house. "Standing room only" hung on the ticket window. The amount given to the fund was \$100.00. A lot of money in those days, since tickets sold for .50 cents down stairs, .35 cents for the balcony seats—there must have been quite a turn out. Seems it would have been cheaper to pay for the ad. But then that wouldn't have given "The Home Talent Players" the satisfied feeling they all had in knowing they were the biggest contributors to this lovely memorial.

There is no record of the following that I could

find, but I happen to recall that a prize of \$5.00 was offered for the drawing submitted and accepted by the committee for the design of the monument. Who won the prize, no one seems to know. It should have been recorded so due credit could be given to the one submitting so lovely a work of art.

This beautiful monument was erected in 1917 during the first world war. It stands 70 feet high and is constructed of Barre Granite and bronze. The figures stationed on each of the four corners represent the four branches of service. On the very top stands Columbia, holding a wreath in her hands. The wreath of peace she extends to a troubled world.

The contract for the monument went to E. M. Hetzler, mayor of the city of Angola at that time and also owner of the monument company. The base measures 19 feet 6 inches square and weighs about 300,000 lbs. On the four tablets of the main die are inscribed the names of the 1280 soldiers who enlisted in the war of 1861-1865, 280 of whom never returned. Steuben County has the record of furnishing more soldiers for this conflict in proportion to man power than any county in the State of Indiana. She has always been proud of her patriotic record, not only in this war, but every war since and justly so.

Perhaps you know the song that says, "So we danced off both our shoes"? Well that literally became a reality the night of the monument dedication. A part of the public square was roped off—Fred Richardson and the Angola City Band furnished the music and young and old alike proceeded to dance off their shoes on the rough brick pavement "till the dawn's early light" when we all journeyed homeward—tired, happy, and shoeless—satisfied we all had had a part in dedicating and contributing to this lovely memorial, physically if not financially. Whether this was in accord with the solemnity of the occasion, I do not know—seems not—but when Angola does anything she goes all out to make any occasion something never to be forgotten.

An interesting story is told in regard to the erec-



tion of the monument. There was a bit of controversy about which way the statue of Columbia should face. Some thought it should face west so people coming into the city by railroad could be greeted by her. (Poor Columbia probably would turn around of her own accord, looking with unbelieving eyes, if she could be told there isn't a railroad bringing people to town anymore. Editor's note.) In fact, the drawing showed her facing west, but most veterans thought it should face South as a reminder of the part of the country where they rendered service in the war. But it seems that when the workman got the statue to the top of the shaft, it became so entangled in the equipment that it was difficult to turn it around, so the contractor decided to leave it facing east. When accosted about the matter, rather than admit his mistake, he replied, "All statues that I have ever seen face the rising sun. That's the right way and that's the way it will stay." And stay she has all these many years. She has seen our boys march off to three wars. She has faithfully kept

watch, hoping that we will at some near time find peace which she exemplifies.

Of late years she has become tired and a bit weary, frail and tottery. So the City fathers decided she needed some repairs. A Fort Wayne Company was hired to do the necessary work. A huge derrick was rolled up to the monument place and work began. It was found the strong lag bolts which held the statue in place had become corroded, loosening her from her firm foundation and causing her to sway a bit in the breeze. The company made the repairs quickly but not without causing a bit of a stir. Many a boy has wished he might climb to the top of the monument and view the countryside from the lofty site. This folding derrick provided the opportunity for one, who certainly has grown to man's estate, but like all men, remain boys at heart. So up to the top went the Mayor, Glen Beatty, taking Columbia the greetings of a happy, peaceful, and prosperous city—which all these years has been so justly proud of her and all she represents.

### Steuben County's Roll of Honor

On the North side of the Monument:

#### —Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry—

Aldrich, Eugene S.	Blowers, Lyman	Crosswait, B. J.	Green, Marcena
Aldrich, Fred H.	*Brooks, Francis	Crow, John	Greenameyer, C. D.
Aldrich, John L.	Brooks, Sam S.	Culp, Miles J.	Greenamyer, Wm.
Aldrich, Simeon C.	Bullard, Shurban	*Cutler, Simon L.	Griffith, Lewis
Altman, Henry H.	Burch, Jas. W.	Dahuff, Henry	Guice, John
Andrews, Neh.	Butler, M. B.	Dotts, Jacob	Guthrie, Levi
Arnold, Nicholas	Butler, Thos. D.	Dotts, Jesse	Guthrie, Stephen
Aumend, Jas. A.	*Carey, Phinneus	Dotts, Wm. H.	Hall, John
Babcock, Wm. Y.	Carlin, John	*Eckhart, John	*Hall, Leander
Bailey, James	Carlin, Wm. C.	Eldridge, Henry	Hathaway, Jos. M.
Barr, Charles H.	Cary, David	Elliott, Samuel H.	Haughey, F. M.
Bates, Caleb J.	Cary, Henry	*Ebberts, Isaac	Hawley, Henry H.
*Baylor, Elias	Casebeer, Calvin	Ewers, Adolphus	Heffelfinger, M. V.
Beard, Henry W.	Chandler, Francis	Ewing, Albert H.	Heller, Daniel
*Belcher, Ziba	Chappel, Julius H.	*Ewing, James B.	Heller, Emanuel
Beil, Isaac	Chilcoat, John	Fegley, John	Higgins, Albert
*Bender, William	Clark, Caleb N.	Fetterhoof, Al	Holcomb, Martin
*Benedict, John M.	*Cleveland, S. J.	*Field, Henry	Hubbell, Charles P.
Bennett, Malcolm	Clink, Chas.	Gannon, J. C.	*Hudelbaugh, Wm.
Bennett, Morris S.	Cook, John	Gaylord, James	*Hurlbert, Chas. F.
*Bennett, William	Cosper, George	*Gilbert, Samuel	Hutchins, J. R.
Bigler, James	Cox, Sol. M.	Goodman, Samuel	Hyatt, Thomas C.
Bixler, Chas. M.	Crampton, John	Goodrich, D. O.	Imhoff, John
Black, L. L.	Crampton, Henry	*Grant, Marion	Irwin, John
*Blowers, Geo.	Crandall, Sias L.	Grant, Harrison	*Jackman, Jos.

Johnson, Amos C.	Miller, Willard	Ryan, John Jr.	*Swain, Richard P.
Johnson, Daniel	Milnes, Joseph	Ryan, James	Swambaugh, Fred
*Johnson, F.	Moffett, Thos. C.	Ryan, Stephen	Thompson, R. H.
Jordan, Alonzo	Moffett, Thos. R.	Ryan, Michael	Thompson, John
Kerr, George	Moore, Tobias	*Ruthaven, Neal	Thrasher, Oscar B.
Kinney, Chas. F.	Morley, George	Sage, Alonzo B.	*Throop, Orange
Kinnear, John W.	*Morrison, Leland	Sailor, Allen M.	Tiffany, Davis J.
Kimmel, John	Morse, Jerome	Scoles, Wm.	Tinsley, Samuel
Knapp, Oscar	Munday, Jasper	Scoville, Hannibal	*Towsley, Albert H.
Kratzer, E. M.	*Musser, Edward	Scoville, O. D.	Truby, Jacob A.
*Larue, Thomas	Nyce, John F.	Shank, N. C.	Turner, Martin B.
Lemmon, H. Clay	Oberst, Chris.	Shank, Sylvester	*Turner, Stephen
Lent, James	O'Brien, Chris.	Shatto, Jerry J.	Twitchell, Geo. W.
*Lent, John	Opie, Wm. J.	*Shields, Alfred	Twitchell, Henry
Lewis, Frank B.	*Page, Irwin	Showalter, Joshua	Ulam, John
Lewis, Newel P.	Parker, Daniel S.	Shorter, Daniel	Van Auken, James
Lint, Daniel	Parrott, John M.	Sines, Simon N.	*Van Cleve, Geo. W.
Lonbarger, Henry	Perkins, Job	Sisson, Jos. P.	Vanolstin, Walter
Long, John G.	Powers, Stephen A.	*Sitting, Simon	Wagner, Geo. W.
Lords, Henry A.	*Purvis, Geo. W.	Sloan, James	*Walters, Sol. D.
*Lords, Jos. F.	Raison, Robert	*Smith, Birge	West, Henry
Lutz, John	Red, Geo. W.	Smith, Walter	*West, Joshua
Malott, Jacob	Renner, Jas. W.	Snyder, Seymour	West, Lewis
Martin, Elias	Richardson, Jas.	Sowle, David	Wilkes, Robert
McConnell, G. W.	Roe, Orange A.	Sowle, Robert	*Wilson, Newel A.
McGuire, William	Robbins, Benson K.	Squier, Samuel E.	Wright, Chancy
*McMillen, John C.	Rodgers, Madison	Stealy, Christian	*Wright, Jerome
*Mease, Samuel E.	Rose, Elias O.	*Stealy, John	Wright, Samuel
*Melendy, Wm.	Rosser, Wm.	Stewart, James	*Wright, Wm. W.
Merriman, Jas. H.	Rowson, O. Z.	Stowe, Sylvester	Yenner, Wm.
Miller, Chas.	Ryan, John Sr.	Strong, Geo. W.	

## —Twelfth Indiana Cavalry—

Baker, Wm. H.	*Conkey, Sarento	Harbaugh, H. W.	Moore, Samuel C.
Barrows, John	Critchfield, Jacob	Hoadley, Howard	Nichols, Benj.
Bassett, James A.	*Cutler, Orin C.	Holcomb, LeRoy	Osborn, Thomas
Bell, Joshua	Dalley, Syrenus	Holcomb, Walter	Parker, Frank D.
Bower, Alfred	Darrah, Chas. L.	*Holdridge, Dudley	Pendall, Samuel
Bowes, Michael	De pue, John	Horn, Chas.	Richard, Henry B.
Burt, Cornelius	Dirrim, Cyrus	Horn, Stephen	*Sams, Benj. B.
*Call, William	Douglass, Rob't.	Huffman, Joseph	*Seymour, Frank B.
Chaffee, Alonzo J.	*Dwellely, Archer	Huffman, Samuel	Sherwin, Herlan
Chaffee, L. A.	*Fee, Moses	*Jones, John	Sizemore, Garner
Charlton, Edward	Fee, Nathan H.	Johnson, John J.	Smiley, David
Clark, Lewis N.	*Fee, Wm. H.	Keyes, Harvey H.	Spear, Myron
*Cook, George	Firestone, D. J.	Latson, Alonzo	Storey, J. D.
*Case, Cyrus	Flowers, A. L.	Luton, Eleazer	*Sutterlin, Jas. A.
Clark, Wm. W.	*Fuller, Wilson	McLain, D. N.	Tabor, Joseph
Cline, Lanson	Gillitt, Homer A.	McLaughlin, A.	Tabor, Lafayette
Cobb, Wm.	Green, Allen	Meek, Wilson	Taylor, Ansel
Cole, Henry	Guertner, Henry	Minard, Jesse	Taylor, Lorenzo



Taylor, Wm. B.  
 \*Tingley, Geo. W.  
 Tingley, Warren  
 Tuttle, George I.

Tuttle, John R.  
 Twiford, John  
 Twiford, Thomas  
 West, Wesley J.

Wiggins, Endress  
 Wilkins, Wm.  
 Williams, D.

Wilson, James H.  
 Wood, Ellis  
 Wood, Chas. W.

—Ninth Indiana Infantry—

Bear, Wm. S.  
 Colewell, L. W.  
 Colegrove, H. P.

\*Fuller, Orson  
 Ireland, John R.  
 Klink, Wm.

Leavitt, Geo. P.  
 Nichols, John H.  
 Renner, David H.

Richardson, Jas.  
 Sowle, Peter  
 Wright, John R.

\*Killed or died in Service.

"It is rather for us, that we here highly resolve  
 that these dead shall not have died in vain; that  
 this nation under God shall have a new birth of

freedom, and that government of the people, by  
 the people, and for the people, shall not perish  
 from the earth."

Abraham Lincoln

Steuben County's Roll of Honor

On the East side:

—Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry—

Adkins, James J.  
 \*Antehouse, James  
 \*Allen, David B.  
 \*Allen, Webster  
 \*Amiden, George P.  
 \*Amiden, Henry  
 Baker, Hiram  
 Baker, Thomas J.  
 Beach, Francis H.  
 Beck, Abner W.  
 \*Bell, David  
 Bender, William  
 Berger, Charles J.  
 Berger, Daniel  
 Berger, John A.  
 Bixler, Levi F.  
 Bodley, Levi N.  
 Bowerman, M.  
 Boyer, John  
 Bromley, David  
 Brown, Anson  
 Brown, George  
 Bundy, Hiram  
 \*Burk, Eli  
 Butler, Seymour S.  
 Canfield, Ben R.  
 \*Carpenter, Gilbert  
 Carpenter, James N.  
 Cleveland, George D.  
 Coe, Chester  
 Conrad, Elias F.  
 \*Courtney, Alonzo

\*Crise, Aaron K. M.  
 Cummings, Barney  
 Deggo, Peter  
 Delebaugh, Jos. J.  
 \*Deller, Wm.  
 Dennis, John T.  
 Dennison, O. J.  
 DeWolf, S. P.  
 Dillingham, C. B.  
 Dixon, Robert S.  
 Eaton, John  
 Elco, John  
 Elliot, Henry E.  
 Everhart, Edmond  
 Everhart, J. McD.  
 Everhart, John T.  
 Fales, Willard  
 Fast, Sylvester A.  
 Ferrier, Jacob  
 Fisher, George  
 French, Chauncey  
 Fink, Eli H.  
 Fry, J. J.  
 Gaskill, Richard J.  
 \*Gatehouse, James  
 \*Gibbons, Christian  
 Gleason, Adam H.  
 Goosebeck, Chas.  
 Goosebeck, John  
 Gunsaulus, Elijah  
 Guthrie, Geo. E.  
 Guthrie, Hugh

Hackett, George  
 Haines, David  
 \*Haines, Philip  
 Haines, William  
 \*Hall, Erastus P.  
 Hall, Joseph H.  
 Hanna, Henry  
 \*Hanna, Nathaniel  
 Hanselman, Wm.  
 \*Hanselman, W. H.  
 Harriman, Wm.  
 \*Hendry, Stephen  
 Hershey, Moses B.  
 Hills, Geo. W.  
 \*Holdridge, H. V.  
 Holly Byron  
 Howarth, Preston  
 Huffman, John W.  
 Hughey, Thomas M.  
 Hunt, John  
 Hutchins, Emory  
 Hutchins, John  
 Hutchins, Judah  
 Irish, Chas. L.  
 Jagger, Ziba J.  
 Jennings, Chas. H.  
 Jenkins, J. H. W.  
 Jenkins, William  
 \*Kerns, William  
 Keyes, Wm. H.  
 Kimsey, Jos. C.  
 King, Peter J.

\*Klock, Frederick  
 Knowles, Reuben  
 Lacey, John B.  
 Lacey, Thomas  
 LaRue, John W.  
 Letcher, Wm.  
 Lewis, Charles  
 Lininger, John  
 Lord, David  
 McGowen, Fred  
 McGowen, Irenus  
 \*McGowen, Miletus  
 McNabb, James  
 Melendy, Hiram B.  
 Melendy, Richard  
 Miller, David C.  
 Miller, Joseph  
 Miller, Philip  
 Moore, Cornelius  
 \*Moore, John  
 Moore William S.  
 Myers, George  
 Northway, Dan C.  
 \*Parker, Edw. A.  
 Parker, Edwin L.  
 Pattee, Alvah  
 \*Petty, John  
 \*Phelps, Griswold  
 Phenicie, James  
 Phenicie, Lewis  
 Phenicie, Wm. C.  
 \*Priest, Wm.

Quigley, James  
 Renner, Robert  
 Rhea, Alex  
 Rhoades, Hubert  
 Rinehart, Eli  
 Ruth, Daniel  
 Ryan, Patrick  
 Sattison, Wm. H.  
 Sabin, Chas. E.  
 Sabin, Oscar C.  
 Schofield, John F.  
 Sergeant, Edw. E.  
 Seymour, Franklin

Shade, Chris.  
 Shade, Richard  
 Showalter, Sol.  
 Sommerlott, A.  
 Sommerlott, F.  
 \*Sommerlott, Vol.  
 Spangle, Lafayette  
 Stevenson, Wm.  
 Stewart, Albert H.  
 Stuck, Levi  
 Stockwell, John  
 \*Talbot, Caleb  
 \*Taylor, James Z.

Taylor, Joshua  
 Taylor, Wm. J.  
 \*Thompson, Jas.  
 Thompson, Phil.  
 Tingler, John  
 Tingler, Simeon  
 Tucker, Wm. H.  
 Tuttle, Geo. D.  
 Twitchell, Theo.  
 \*VanCleve, Wm. A.  
 \*Waller, Elijah J.  
 Wells, Chas. L.  
 West, John J.

\*Wilbur, Seth  
 Wilkin, Lewis H.  
 \*Willoughby, Arms  
 Willoughby, F.  
 Willoughby, J. M.  
 Wilson, Alex G.  
 Wolcott, Nathaniel  
 Wolcott, Wm. H.  
 Wood, Fred B.  
 \*Woodard, Hiram  
 \*Woodworth, J. R.  
 Young, Lewis, I. C.  
 Young, Philip L.

—One Hundred Fifty-Second Indiana Infantry—

Abbey, George  
 Abrahamson, E.  
 Alcott, Geo.  
 Alliman, Samuel  
 Babcock, David  
 Barber, D. K.  
 Beck, Peter S.  
 Bodley, Wm. S.  
 Brugh, Wilson  
 \*Calvin, Jesse P.  
 Chaffee, Addison  
 Cole, Chas.  
 Dawson, Milo D.  
 Debow, James  
 DeWitt, Wm.  
 Donihue, Henry  
 \*Donihue, Daniel  
 Dotts, Philip  
 Douglass, D. C.  
 Evans, Robert  
 Everett, Benj.  
 Fleagel, David  
 \*French, David J.

Freygang, Ed.  
 George, Jeremiah  
 Gilbert, Jos.  
 \*Gillett, Nelson  
 \*Graham, Seymour  
 Griffith, B. F.  
 Hart, John  
 Hayden, Oliver  
 Hunt, Joshua  
 Hyler, Chas. J.  
 Jackson, Ben  
 Jackson, Wm. H.  
 Kline, James  
 Lamoreaux, Isaac  
 Lamore, Cyprian  
 Laughrey, James  
 Leavitt, Wm.  
 Light, Jas. D.  
 Lounsbury, Neh.  
 Markle, Abert  
 McElhenie, W.  
 \*McEntyre, Wm. O.  
 Menges, Israel

Miller, George  
 Moore, Robert  
 \*Morse, Edwin, R.  
 Morse, Ezra, D.  
 Morse, Orrin  
 Munday, Alanson  
 Newville, Sol.  
 \*Nicholas, Henry  
 Nolen, Meseck  
 Norton, A. A.  
 Otta, Christian  
 Packer, Oliver  
 Parsons, Seymour  
 Partridge, Jos.  
 Phenicie, Geo.  
 Pillsbury, Dan  
 Pillsbury, Neh.  
 Reed, John M.  
 Reynolds, Wm.  
 Rhoads, Richard  
 Richardson, Henry  
 Rima, Wm.  
 Rodgers, Madison

Rosenberger, D.  
 \*Rummell, David  
 Rupley, Geo.  
 Ruth, Daniel  
 Sams, Abdillah  
 Sattison, Godfrey  
 Shaffer, Andrew  
 Shero, Franklin  
 Smith, A. A.  
 Stocker, DeWitt C.  
 Sunderland, Peter  
 Sutherland, W. G.  
 \*Swartz, Jacob  
 Taylor, Orrin  
 Thompson, Alex  
 Wells, Marcus, O.  
 Wolf, Adam C.  
 Wickwire, Geo. R.  
 Williams, Wash.  
 Williamson, James  
 Wilson, Henry  
 \*Woodford, B. D.  
 Woodward, G. W.  
 Young, John T.

—Forty-Second Illinois Infantry—

Adams, James  
 Bullard, Almon  
 \*Carpenter, Gordon  
 Carpenter, Volney  
 Carson, John  
 Carson, W. I.  
 \*Dickinson, Geo. L.  
 Dickinson, Milton  
 \*Eckright, Chas.

Evans, Robert  
 \*Finch, Robt.  
 \*Goodale, A. N.  
 Greenleaf, A. N.  
 \*Hart, Edwin H.  
 Hart, Thompson  
 \*Hewett, Watson J.  
 Hoover, Nicholas  
 Jarrard, Wm.

Kale, Henry  
 Kelley, Eugene  
 Lininger, Benj. J.  
 \*Miner, Thomas  
 \*Miner, Wm.  
 \*Moorehouse, S.  
 \*Nash, Elijah  
 Nash, John B.  
 \*Opie, Benjamin

\*Ormsby, Jesse  
 \*Root, Orrin E.  
 Root, Wallace  
 Spear, Robert B.  
 Stout, Aaron  
 \*Tuttle, Hezekiah  
 \*Wilkerson, Frank



## —Thirteenth Indiana Infantry—

Baughner, John	*Hyatt, Wm. H.	Kemp, Fred	*Nicholas, Ira V.
Casebeer, Ed.	Kelley, Thomas	Lords, Hubert C.	*Slauson, Milton
*Downing, Joshua	Kellogg, L.	Nash, Rual	Smith, Wm. H.

\*Killed or died in Service

In loving memory of the women of 1861 to no less worthy sacrifice upon the altar of liberty.  
1865 whose courage and heroism at home were a

## Steuben County's Roll of Honor

On the South side:

## —One Hundred Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry—

Baker, Wm. F.	Cook, Henry	*King, Emanuel	Shatto, Isaac N.
*Barnard, O. V.	Cook, John	Kope, Andrew	Showalter, Hiram
Bates, Ralph	Cory, Geo. W.	*Kope, Henry	*Sines, Chas.
*Beard, Alex W.	Crall, James A.	Leech, John H.	Sommerlott, Geo.
Beard, Myron	Crandall, Chas. L.	*Lockwood, Deloss	Sowle, Hiram
Beard, Wright	Crane, Leander	Lovejoy, Geo. W.	Stealey, John C.
Beck, Dennis	Daniels, Sheldon	*Luce, Wm.	Stephens, J. M.
Bender, Alfred H.	Daugherty, Geo.	*Maberry, Chas.	Stephenson, John
*Bender, Andros	Delong, Henry	Mawhood, Jont.	*Stephenson, N.
Bender, David A.	Dillingham, Jerry	McCoy, Henry	Stevens, Jacob
*Bender, James A.	Duguid, David	McGrew, Benj.	Stewart, Chas.
Bennett, George	Duguid, Moses, V.	McGrew, James	Stewart, Lewis
Bennett, Josiah	Frost, J. B.	*McKinley, Rod	Stewart, Wm.
Bennett, Stratton	Getter, Marcus	McMinn, Joseph	Sultz, Isaac
Berlien, John	Gibbons, John W.	Melendy, E. C.	*Sutton, Alfred
Berlingham, J. J.	Gilbert, Armenus	*Messerva, John B.	Sutton, Thos. W.
Bohart, Cornelius	Gilbert, John	Metz, Joshua	Swift, David K.
Bohart, Ervin	Goff, Osmond D.	*Mock, Geo.	Swihart, Morgan
*Bohart, Samuel	Greenamyre, John	Moore, Alex S.	Taylor, Isaac
Bonney, Thad. S.	Gunn, Morrison	*Moore, John	Taylor, Jasper S.
*Bowers, Samuel	*Gunn, Morrison Jr.	Morgan, David	Taylor, Wm. H.
*Boyer, Francis	Gunn, Robert	*Musser, Samuel	Teeters, Lewis
Bromley, George	Guyle, Hiram	Musser, Wm. A.	Teft, Franklin
Bromley, Henry	Hand, Albert D.	Norricks, Wm. L.	*Thomas, Richard
Brown, Wm.	Hand, John	Parker, John	Thorp, J. M.
Buell, Byron	Hanselman, D. A.	*Petty, Aaron	Townsend, Hiram
Bullard, Wm. S.	Hart, Andrew	Petty, Cornelius	Triskett, Leo
*Bundy, Nathaniel	*Heath, Homer, B.	Pincheon, A. F.	VanAuken, Amos
Burk, Henry	*Hendricks, Jos. S.	*Powers, Josiah	VanAuken, Julius
Carlin, Leander	Hutchins, David	Reese, Armine T.	Vaughn, A. M.
*Carpenter, J. C.	Hutchins, H.	Renner, John Jr.	Veley, Josiah B.
*Cartwright, Wm.	Hutchins, Wm.	Rosecrans, L. N.	*Vinton, Jacob
*Clark, Chas.	James, Wm.	Rosenberger, Jno.	Weatherwax, H. H.
*Clements, H. J.	*Joray, Chas. A.	*Ryan, Horton R.	Williams, John W.
*Clements, James	Joray, Paul	Ryan, Lawrence	Williams, R. L.
Closson, Asa N.	Kelley, Harmon B.	Sabin, A. D.	Yockey, Andrew
Cole, John	Kellogg, Edwin	Sargent, Theo.	Zimmerman, Joseph
Cole, John P.	Kemp, Sumner	*Shafer, Eli.	
Cole, Wm. H.	Kelso, Adelbert	*Sharp, Sam'l C.	

## —One Hundred Fifty-Fifth Indiana Infantry—

Eberhard, George	Graham, Peter	Menges, Peter	Shaffstall, Nat.
Freeman, James	Gushwa, J.	Menges, Samuel	Shoemaker, R. N.
Graham, H. W.	Klink, Eli	Miller, Jacob	Snowberger, Peter
Graham, Jacob	Linn, W. H.	Oberlin, George	Thompson, E. P.

## —One Hundred Forty-Second Indiana Infantry—

Casebeer, Peter	*Ingersol, Willard	McCune, Robert	Richards, J.
Chaffee, J. H.	Keyes, Hiram	Morrow, Henry	VanAuken, P.
			*VanCleve, J. H.

## —Nineteenth Indiana Infantry—

*Altman, John	Denman, Sam	Gaylord, Henry	Rutan, Levi
*Altman, Sam	*Divelbiss, Daniel	*George, Milo	Smith, Edward
Cleland, John	*Fisher, William	Kulp, Geo.	Smith, Henry

## —Miscellaneous Regiments—

Acker, David	Frederick, Sam'l	Parsons, Frank	Terrill, Edward
Aldrich, M. H.	Friend, Jeff L.	Pendill, James	Terrill, Eliot
Amidon, Aaron	Gibbeny, Sam'l H.	*Powers, Oliver	*Terrill, Joseph
Badger, J. C.	*Gilbert, Miles	Powers, Volney	*Tillotson, Wm.
*Baker, Wm.	Goodale, C. W.	Quackenbush, J.	Thomas, Alfred
Barber, Lucian	Gray, O. B.	Race, Scott	*Trowbridge, E.
Batterson, Sam	Haines, Ira, S.	Race, Thomas	Trowbridge, John
Beard, Luman, H.	Haines, T. W.	Reel, A. C.	VanPelt, B. H.
Beck, Joseph	Heller, D.	Richardson, Cary	VanPelt, Otis
Bodley, Flem W.	*Heller, James	Rinehart, Christian	Vaughn, DeWitt
Brainard, W.	Hough, George	Ritter, P.	Vaughn, Geo. W.
*Brindley, Benj.	Houghey, Wm.	Rosenberger, I.	Vaughn, L. W.
*Brooker, John T.	Huffman, C.	Rosenberger, J. C.	Vaughn, Tracey
*Butler, Frank	Hughey, Stephen	Rummel, Alex	Vaughn, Wesley
Butler, John H.	*Hurlin, George	*Rummel, Alfred	Walter, Wm.
Carpenter, Jesse H.	*Infield, Jacob	Rummel, Henry	*Webb, Andrew J.
Carver, Oscar P.	*Infield, Philip	Schaeffer, Oliver	*Wellington, Doc.
Chase, Aaron	*Jarvis, Alexander	Scholtz, Emile	Welton, D.
Chase, DeWitt	Jarvis, Hiram	Shaffer, J. W.	West, Lawrence
Clark, Sam'l	Johns, David	*Shaffstall, Elam	Wilder, Geo. K.
Cleveland, Osmer	Jordan, John C.	Shaffstall, John	Wilkinson, A.
Day, W. H. H.	Leasure, Ben F.	Sheets, Geo. W.	*Williamson, Peter
*Denman, Robt.	Lucas, G. R.	Sherrow, Sutton	Williamson, A.
DePue, Gideon	Mathews, Amos	Smith, Benj. F.	Wisel, Dan R.
DePue, Henry F.	*Mathews, Henry	Smith, I. W.	White, Charles
DeWitt, John D.	McKegg, Albro	Snyder, Henry	White, Chas. M.
Dooley, Thos. A.	*McLain, Chas.	Snyder, Joel	White, Volney
Dygart, R. H.	*McLain, John W.	*Stevens, Gilman B.	Whiting, Paris, C.
Fletcher, M. C.	McLain, Sylvester	Stout, Joseph	Wolff, Milton
Finch, Lafe	Musselwait, John	Sutterlin, John F.	Woodard, Alson
Forward, James M.	Nevels, Tip	Tasker, Wm. W.	Woodard, Wilson
Frederick, D. B.	Nevels, Wm.	*Terrill, Chester	Woodford, George

\*Killed or died in Service

To Those Who Never Returned

"On fame's eternal camping ground  
Their silent tents are spread;

And Glory guards with solemn round  
The bivouac of the dead."



On the West side:

—One Hundredth Indiana Infantry—

Abbott, William	Chapman, E. A.	*Hains, Martin	*Root, Rodney H.
Archer, John	Cole, Royal	Hand, Charles E.	*Rude, Chas.
Bailey, Samuel	*Conkey, Manning	Hand, Henry H.	Sabin, Marden
Betzer, Adam	Cook, George	Hilton, Lewis L.	*Scott, Henry M.
*Betzer, Peter	Davis, William	Hoolihan, Jos.	Shumway, R. U.
Blass, C. D.	Denman, Smith	Hoover, Joseph	Sins, Charles
*Blass, Jefferson	Dillingham, Jas.	Hurd, Harvey M.	Snyder, A. J.
Bodley, Aaron	*Dillingham, J. B.	Jadwin, John P.	*Snyder, Geo.
Bodley, James	Dimon, Henry	Jarvis, Clement	*Soule, David
*Bodley, Philo	Dudley, Grove H.	Johnson, Geo. W.	Sperry, Jackson E.
Bradley, Dan	Ebert, James M.	Johnson, Henry	Stafford, Jos.
Bradley, James	*Ellis, Charles O.	*Kale, James	Sultz, Jacob
Brock, Monroe	Emerich, Jont.	*Keith, Lewis	Suppenaugh, T.
*Brockway, Geo.	Fanshaw, John H.	Kellogg, Wm.	Sutherland, A. J.
*Brooks, Henry	Fast, Orla J.	*Lee, Clark	Sutherland, C. C.
Brown, German	Flint, Francis	*McLain, Ambrose	Taylor, Cornelius
Burton, John	French, George	Mellens, Wm.	Taylor, Orrin R.
Carpenter, Alex	Gillespie, D. S.	Morrow, John K.	*Taylor, Warren J.
Carpenter, C.	Gillespie, Jos. W.	Musser, John	Taylor, Wm. J.
Carver, Henry	Gillespie, R. R.	*Northway, Geo. F.	Vanalstyne, C. E.
*Casper, Lewis	Goldsmith, Edwin	Parker, Samuel	*Welch, Wm. J.
Casper, Levi	Goodrich, Silas	Parker, W. R.	Wiggins, Nathan
*Clark, John C.	Goodrich, Sylv.	Powers, Geo. W.	Wilder, Chas. H.
Cleveland, Adison	Gore, Geo. W.	Pulver, Wm. O.	Woodworth, H. S.
*Cluck, George	*Green David	Rhodes, Gilbert	Young, Riley
*Chadwick, Sam	Haines, M. J.	Rodgers, Bradley	Zimmerman, John
Chapman, A. B.	Hains, John	Rollins, George R.	

—Seventy-Fourth Indiana Infantry—

Abbey, Jacob D.	Flowers, Abram S.	Jordan, Andrew J.	Morse, Charles A.
*Barcalow, J. H.	Furry, Richard	*Kemery, Peter L.	*Morse, Jedediah
Benedict, Jas. E.	Gardner, Adelbt.	Knapp, M. R.	Nichols, Jos. B.
*Bennett, Abram	*Gardner, Elisha	Knisley, Noah	Parker, Salmon
*Bennett, John G.	Gates, Lawrence	Latson, Charles	Parker, William
Blake, Albert E.	*Geer, George	*Latson, Samuel	Perfect, Middleton
*Bodley, Tom	*George, F. J.	Lee, Ellis M.	Perfect, Robert L.
Burch, Halbert C.	George, Jas. A.	Lemmon, Edward	Pettibone, Nathan
*Burgess, D. R.	George, S. B.	*Lemmon, Eli	*Pew, Edward
Clark, Newton	*Gilbert, Cornelius	*Lemmon, Jas. M.	Pew, James
Closson, Edgar W.	*Goodrich, E. E.	Lemmon, John B.	Phenicie, John W.
Cole, Nelson	Green, Francis M.	*Lemmon, Richard	Pierce, Ora
*Cole, Samuel	Griffith, Leaman	Letts, Nelson	Pixley, Luther
*Cope, David	Guthrie, Wm. P.	Light, Orlenzo	*Pomeroy, Henry
Cornell, Geo. W.	Hauver, John H.	*Lininger, Samuel	*Rose, Sol. J.
*Crawford, Isaac	Huffman, Asa F.	Lonsdale, Geo.	Rummell, Geo.
Dahuff, Simon	Huffman, Silas	Lowther, Geo.	Rummell, Jacob
Dawson, B. F.	Hull, Andrew J.	*Merriett, F. M.	Scoville, Err
Dirlam, Cecil	*Hutchins, Theo.	Miller, Pomeroy	*Sines, Henry, R.
Dove, Robert	*Ireland, J. R.	*Moore, Michael	Slocum, Giles
*Fitting, Simon	Jackson, Andrew	Moore, Wm.	Smiley, Alonzo

Snyder, John  
 Sowle, Abram L.  
 \*Spegelmire, Dave  
 \*Steward, Wm. H.  
 Stewart, John C.  
 \*Stewart, P. P.  
 Stetler, Daniel

Stetler, Jacob  
 Stetler, William  
 \*Stout, John  
 Summerlin, C. N.  
 Tasker, Wm.  
 Thompson, Henry  
 Thompson, Wm.

Towns, John N.  
 Vaughn, Walter  
 Vose, Geo.  
 Warren, Robt. R.  
 Warren, Wm. H.  
 Wakefield, Harvey  
 Willard, R. J.

Williams, Silas R.  
 \*Willoughby, Jas.  
 Willis, Wm.  
 Wolcott, James  
 Wolf, Wm. S.  
 \*Wood, Hiram  
 \*Warden, Schuyler

—Seventh Indiana Cavalry—

Baker, Wm. H.  
 Barber, John  
 \*Carey, Edwin  
 Carpenter, A. S.  
 Dahuff, Eli  
 Dirlam, Stillwell  
 \*Edwards, Danford  
 Eldridge, Wm. H.

Elliott, John H.  
 Fegley, Geo. W.  
 Fitch, John T.  
 Frederick, Geo. W.  
 Gordon, James B.  
 Guthrie, Richard  
 Hamlin, Geo.  
 Hix, Marvin

Huffman, Sam D.  
 \*Hyatt, William  
 James, Geo. C.  
 Lidge, Adam  
 Moore, Wesley  
 Mortorff, Samuel  
 Shaffer, Dan C.  
 Snowberger, R. H.

Taylor, Oren  
 \*Thomelson, David  
 Tuttle, Chester V.  
 Tuttle, Theo. F.  
 Wilkinson, Milo  
 Woodward, Wm.  
 Woodworth, Braz

—First Indiana Heavy Artillery—

Conger, S. L.  
 Conger, S. P.  
 Jackson, Thad P.  
 Knox, R. B.

Ladow, Frank  
 McLain, L. N.  
 Meek, A. W.  
 Shaffstall, Adam

Shaffstall, Frank  
 Sutterlin, Abe  
 Sutterlin, Fred  
 \*Sutterlin, J. F.

Vanpelt, Samuel  
 Woodford, J. C.

—McClellan's Dragoons—

Bennett, Guy  
 Brown, John  
 Buchannan, H.

Burkett, Lafayette  
 Carpenter, Alval

Davis, John  
 Fanning, Amos

Huffman, Jack  
 Mosier, James

—Fourth Michigan Infantry—

Adair, James H.  
 Allen, Charles H.  
 Baker, W. T.  
 Bender, David  
 Bennet, Alex  
 Bennett, Geo.  
 Bixler, Frank M.  
 Britton, Wm.  
 Bryan, Joseph  
 Burns, E. C.  
 Campbell, J. E.  
 Carver, Orville

Carpenter, W. W.  
 Caswell, A. D.  
 Crain, John  
 \*Crockett, LeRoy  
 Croxton, L. J.  
 \*Davis, Enoch  
 Day, Adelbert F.  
 Divelbiss, Geo. W.  
 Fisher, Homer E.  
 Fitch, Edson J.  
 Getter, O. H.  
 Hackett, Andrew

\*Jones, Thomas D.  
 Jones, Timothy T.  
 Kemery, Absolom  
 Kingley, A. J.  
 \*Meech, Fred W.  
 Meek, David  
 \*Munger, T. J.  
 Morse, Sanford  
 Nichols, Henry  
 Owens, Andrew  
 Petrie, Henry  
 \*Pierce, Wm J.

Priest, George  
 Priest, Mathias  
 Richardson, John  
 Scholfield, Lester  
 Shaffer, Alphonso  
 Shick, Charles  
 \*Tasker, Richard  
 \*Tillotson, George  
 Wheaton, Andrew  
 Young, Geo. E.

\*Killed or died in Service.

Erected 1917 By the Grateful Citizens  
 of Steuben County  
 To Commemorate the Valor and  
 Patriotism of Her  
 Soldiers in the Civil War  
 1861-1865

\* James Harpham  
 F. G. Salisbury  
 N. E. Sickie  
 County Commissioners



This is the story published in the Angola Herald of October 28, 1953, with the picture of the monument while it was being refurbished.



Workmen are shown in the motor aerial tower making repairs on the statue of Columbia at the top of the memorial in Monument Place. The operation attracted the attention of many citizens through the several hours that were necessary to make the repairs.



## Military History of Steuben County

*By Col. Gaylord S. Gilbert*

The following is the history of Steuben County's part in the Civil War; the Spanish-American War of 1898; World War I, 1914-18; World War II, 1941-45; and the Korean War, 1950-52.

Every school boy and girl has learned that the greatest war within the borders of the United States was the one known as the Civil War, which

was fought in 1861 to 1866, between the North and the South, over the question of States Rights, in order to settle forever the question of whether this country should be "part slave and part free," as Mr. Lincoln stated in his famous Freeport, Illinois, speech. At daybreak, on April 12, 1861, the first gun was fired by the Southern Confederacy on Fort Sumter in Charleston Bay, South Carolina, this state being the first to secede from the Union.

Two days after Fort Sumter fell to the Confederacy, President Lincoln called out 75,000 militiamen. The response was so prompt that by the next day several companies were arriving at the National Capitol. Within a few days 50,000 men were within the borders of the District of Columbia ready to protect the city of Washington from

any possibility of destruction. All of the North was aroused, and within 10 days \$25,000,000 had been contributed to the support of the war. The poor gave as well as the rich. In Boston, the school teachers pledged a part of their weekly salary for as long as needed to carry on the war.

At this time Steuben County had a population of only about 10,000, not a mile of railroad within its borders, and very few newspapers were available. Under the call for the first 75,000 men, Indiana was assigned a quota of six regiments. Within 5 days a full company had been enlisted in Steuben County and was being trained by Captain Baldwin J. Crosswait, who had seen service in the war with Mexico five years before. This company was at once dispatched to Governor Morton, at Indianapolis, but the means of transportation between Angola and the Capitol was so slow that by the time the loyal Steuben County men arrived the quota had been filled. In just eight days after the first shot was fired in that Southern harbor, Governor Morton had twelve regiments, and in less than thirty days 40,000 men had offered him their services. Many of the men from Steuben County, still fired with true patriotism, came back and enlisted at other places, some in Ohio, some in Michigan, and others in Illinois. On May 24, 1861, thirty men left in one group and enlisted in Adrian, Michigan, as members of the 4th Michigan Infantry Regiment, and in August, over thirty more enlisted in Chicago in the 42nd Infantry Regiment. The following are brief accounts of organizations in which men from Steuben County served during this civil conflict:

#### **Scott Township Guards**

On August 16, 1861, Captain J. H. Judkins enrolled the first man for what was to become Company "A" 29th Infantry Regiment at a parade of the Scott Township Guards. The uniforms of his home company were made of blue denim, with red and white stripes and stars. First Lieutenant William E. Sergeant and Second Lieutenant R. W. Melendy were its officers. On August 27, 1861, the 29th Infantry Regiment was organized and mustered into service at LaPorte, Indiana, with Colonel John F. Miller as its Commanding Officer. Baldwin J. Crosswait was made a Lieutenant Colonel, and General W. McConnell became the Quartermaster. Company A, and parts of Companies I and K of this Regiment were composed of men from Steuben County. This regiment partici-

pated in many of the famous battles of the war and many men from Steuben County did not return.

#### **44th Infantry Regiment**

The companies comprising the 44th Infantry Regiment were raised in the Tenth Congressional District. Colonel Hugh B. Reed was its Commanding Officer. Companies A and K and parts of Companies D, F, and H were from Steuben County. This regiment was sent to Green River County, Kentucky, in December 1861, and later to Fort Henry. It also participated in the battle of Fort Donelson where it lost heavily, and in the battle of Shiloh where 33 of its men were killed and 177 wounded. The 44th Infantry Regiment was discharged at Indianapolis where a reception was given in its honor with Governor Morton, General Grose, and General Washburn as the speakers.

#### **48th Infantry Regiment**

The 48th Infantry Regiment was organized at Goshen on December 6, 1861, with Company H being composed of men from Steuben County. The regiment arrived at Fort Donelson the day of the surrender of that famous fort; it was at Iuka, Corinth (Second Battle), and Champion Hills, and marched with Grant to Vicksburg. During its service, this regiment lost 213 men, killed and wounded.

#### **100th Infantry Regiment**

The 100th Infantry Regiment from the Tenth Congressional District was organized in August, 1864. Steuben County gave to this regiment all of Company B, and parts of companies D and K. The regiment joined General Grant at Vicksburg and took part in the battles there as well as at Mission Ridge where it lost over 130 men. On its return journey home this regiment received acclaim at Washington and Indianapolis.

#### **The 12th Indiana Volunteer Cavalry Regiment**

The 12th Indiana Volunteer Cavalry Regiment was organized at Kendallville, Indiana, on March 1, 1864. Parts of Troops B, C, and I were from Steuben County. This organization fought in almost every Southern State, under Major General Canby. It was mustered out on November 10, 1865.

#### **129th Infantry Regiment**

The 129th Infantry Regiment was recruited in the winter of 1863-64, and rendezvoused at Michi-



gan City where it was mustered into service on March 1, 1864. It had an eventful service but lost heavily during the war. Only 503 men and officers remained to be mustered out in August, 1865, at Charlotte, North Carolina.

### 142nd Infantry Regiment

The 142nd Infantry Regiment was recruited at points within the Tenth Congressional District and was mustered in at Indianapolis on March 16, 1865. It left for Harper's Ferry, Virginia, to join the army at Shenandoah, and remained there until mustered out August 30, 1865, reaching Indianapolis with only 770 men and officers.

Steuben County raised thousands of dollars during the Civil War for bounties and support of "war widows" and their families. "Loyalty" is stamped on every page and every resolution of the County Commissioners' proceedings for the years of this war.

### Spanish American War—1898

At the beginning of the year, 1898, the National Guard of Indiana consisted of forty-one companies of infantry and three batteries of artillery, with an aggregate of 2,822 officers and men. The war cloud grew darker and darker until April 19, 1898, when Congress passed resolutions of intervention, which were approved, and on April 22 President McKinley issued a proclamation, calling for 125,000 volunteers to serve in the army of the United States for two years, unless sooner discharged. War against Spain was declared by the United States, April 25, 1898. Governor James Mount, of Indiana, at once ordered the training increased for the Indiana National Guard.

A great portion of the troops who served from this county in that war were members of the 157th Volunteer Infantry Regiment, formerly the old 3rd Regiment of the Indiana National Guard and were composed of the companies from Knox, Wayne, Goshen, North Manchester, Elkhart, South Bend, Angola, Waterloo, Auburn, Ligonier, and Plymouth. This regiment arrived at Camp Mount on April 26, 1898, where it was mustered into regular service on May 10, 1898, and left for Camp Thomas, Chickamauga Park, Georgia, on Sunday, May 15, 1898. This regiment trained at Fernandina, Florida, and was mustered out of service at Indianapolis, Indiana, on November 1, 1898.

### World War I

Having narrated the chief events in the various early conflicts in which citizens of Steuben County have been called upon to defend their country we now come to the Great World war of 1914-18. Just before the first County "Drive" the following notice was published throughout Steuben County:

#### "A SUMMONS TO SERVICE"

"Next Monday, February 4, 1918, is the day set apart by the State Council of Defense for Steuben County's patriotic meeting in Angola, in connection with the great war word of the nation. On that day the State will expect Steuben County to add another page to the glorious history of her citizenship in times of war. And in this connection a short resume of the mighty accomplishments in patriotic work by the loyal people of Steuben County is entirely fitting.

"Go out to the silent shaft in the center of the mound on the public square in Angola and read the names of the 1,278 patriots who offered their lives on the altar of liberty in the dark days of 1861-1865; then call to mind the services of the ninety-seven men who departed for Hammond, Ind., on the call of the Governor, when the peace of the state was torn by internal labor troubles; again in 1898, when more than a hundred loyal sons of patriotic parents of Steuben County answered the call of the martyred McKinley and marched away in behalf of an oppressed people of a foreign land in 1916, when our borders were being invaded and the lives of United States citizens placed in jeopardy by the treacherous Mexicans, Steuben County responded heroically to the call and a full company of soldiers and a splendid hospital corps marched away at the call of President Wilson, and one more name (Tom Fairfield) was added to the mightiest roll of honor produced by any county in the state.

"Now again in the good years of 1917-18, when the very life of the nation is in jeopardy, when the greatest military power in the world is striving to overthrow the best government ever set up by mortal man—our government—the one which through all the years your sons and ours have offered their lives to perpetuate—another nearly two hundred young men bravely marched away, willing sacrifices to the cause of liberty and democracy. And now, with these last patriots still in the field, Steuben County is called upon to again record the loyalty of her citizenship and devote

one full day to the work of assisting these soldiers and thereby furthering the great conflict to a speedier and more successful termination."

### **In Service "Over There"**

The present day reader will readily understand the meaning of the term "Over There," but possibly a later generation may not. It refers to the American Expeditionary Forces, who, after training in home camps on our own soil, were transported to European ports to aid the allies in subduing the German Military Machine which threatened the entire world. These men were stationed mostly in France and were active in the trench warfare of that day. There our men faced the terrors of poison gas, barbed wire obstructions and trench warfare, while our submarine warfare and air-ship fighting took another toll from this county.

### **Steuben County War Chest Association**

One of the greatest drives carried on in Steuben County during the war was the drive to fill the War Chest.

During the month of October, 1918, seven of the larger war work organizations doing the war work united for one big drive under the head of the United War Work Campaign, with John R. Mott as National Chairman; word came to Steuben County that her quota for this drive would be approximately \$23,000, and before the drive was made a call came urging that this amount be over-subscribed at least fifty per cent.

When the word was received that Steuben County must raise over \$23,000 the Council of Defense, with R. E. Willis as chairman, met and decided to put this matter in the hands of a committee and proceeded to appoint the following: H. W. Morley, chairman; E. D. Willis, Secretary; Orville Stevens, publicity manager; Dr. T. J. Creel, ways and means; and Rev. J. K. Wyandt, chairman of public speakers. This committee was called together at once and the matter of raising the money was discussed. The question of a War Chest was suggested and after much debate and deliberation on the part of this committee and on the part of the Council of defense it was decided to make Steuben County a War Chest county.

Publicity manager Orville Stevens at once began flooding the county with educational matter concerning the War Chest. The press was kept

busy, and the people in the county soon came to know exactly what a War Chest was and how it was to be filled, as set forth in the following announcement:

"The War Chest plan was to raise, without waste of money or effort, a large single fund with which to meet, for the period of one year, or longer, every legitimate demand, which may be made on Steuben County for War, Charitable or Benevolent needs."

Never in the History of Steuben County has such a drive been made, or one that was so well organized and in which so many people of the county had a part both in working and giving, and as to the work of organization and preparation for this drive, too much cannot be said of the patriotic citizens who gave days and weeks of their time to this work.

Early in the morning of the second Monday of November (Nov. 11, 1918), as the workers of Steuben County were thinking of getting up and preparing for their day's work, the whistles of the county blew, bells rang, and a roar of noise went up all over the county, for the news had arrived that at last Germany had signed the Armistice.

All plans for the War Chest Drive were forgotten and every one all over the county spent the day in rejoicing and thanksgiving; a great day for rejoicing, but not a very good day for the Steuben County War Chest. But the forces were reorganized, and the pledges were, to a large extent, signed up within the next week or two, regardless that in the opinion of everyone, the war was over. The amount pledged was approximately \$60,000 and the wonderful part of this drive was the splendid spirit of patriotism on the part of the people of the county, in that every dollar was pledged and paid after the armistice was signed. Over fifty percent of the \$60,000 was for the American Red Cross and a small amount for civilian relief, and within the last few weeks the call for help from the starving and homeless people of the war ravaged countries of Europe, was met and paid from the War Chest.

### **World War II Background—The World Situation**

When the German army under Hitler invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, with 77 divisions and 4000 planes, and thousands of tanks, Poland with less than a third of that strength was doomed to quick destruction. Although an easy victim to the German assault, the Poland army in 1939 far



surpassed that of the United States in men and equipment. On July 1, 1939, the Army's enlisted strength in the United States, air and ground services, was less than 130,000.

The American people still believed that distance provided adequate insulation between us and any conflict in Europe or Asia. Four months before Pearl Harbor, Congress passed Selective Service Extension Act permitting the movement of all Army components overseas. But the American people in their abhorrence of war, continued to deny themselves a reasonable military posture. During the thirties, the army concentrated on spit and polish retreat formations and parades. Troops carried wooden models of mortars and machine guns and were able to study some of our new weapons only from blueprints. Much of the outmoded weapons and equipment was still in use.

(Crusade in Europe)

D. D. Eisenhower

### The Situation in the East

While negotiations were going on in Washington with Japanese envoys, looking to a settlement of difficulties with them in Asia, a task force of Japanese ships and planes arrived off Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and on December 7, 1941, launched an attack on the American fleet, army camps and airfields there that caught the defenders completely by surprise. Warship after warship sank under the enemy bombs, and over 2000 were killed. Simultaneously, attacks were made on the Philippines, Guam, and other American outposts. Whether the American officers in charge at Pearl Harbor had been negligent in their duty, or whether Washington had not properly warned them of the danger of a sudden attack, has never been fully determined.

On December 8 1941, Congress, at the President's request, declared war on Japan. England did the same. Germany and Italy then declared war on the United States, and the greatest, most appalling struggle for survival the world has yet seen gained new momentum.

As far as America was concerned, World War II drafted World War I. Instead of 4 million in uniform, the United States mustered over 12 million, of whom a small percentage was women. The 364,000 casualties of World War I were only a third of the more than a million total casualties of World War II; and the national debt of 27

billion for World War I was only a tenth of the 279 billion for World War II.

America's transformation, in three years, from a situation of appalling danger to appaereled might in battle, was one of the miracles that brought us to victory in Europe on May 7, 1945.

(History of U. S.)

—Franklin Escher, Jr.

The Honor-Roll of service men from Steuben County in World War II and the Korean Conflict has been written. Those names include Men of Valor; soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines. Who is able at this time to say, or who would dare suggest, which name should be placed above which other name? They offered their all—some gave their all.

Our county, state, and nation have good reason to be proud of the contribution made by Steuben County, of men and women; blood and sweat; time and money, during World War II and during the Korean conflict which followed.

Figures alone fall far short of telling the story, but for those who are interested in totals, the following information is the official record of Steuben County's contribution:

1624 persons entered the service as inductees or enlistees, during World War II, from November 1940 to December 1946. It is noted that this figure includes 18 women.

639 persons entered the service as inductees or enlistees, during the Korean Conflict, from September 1948 to January 1955. This figure includes 3 women.

Steuben County now has its own National Guard Unit stationed at Angola, Company "I", an Infantry Unit, which was federally recognized on July 16, 1948. This Unit is a part of the 3rd Battalion of the 293rd Infantry Regiment, located at Ft. Wayne, Indiana, which is a part of the 38th Infantry Division with headquarters at Indianapolis.

Company "I" now has a strength of four (4) officers and one hundred (100) enlisted men. Captain Gerald C. Lett, the present commanding officer, assumed command on December 21, 1948. The other officers at this writing are: 1st Lt. Charles E. Feller, Jr.; 2d Lt. Francis A. Thomas; and 2d Lt. Thomas R. Jack.

The newly authorized National Guard Armory, costing \$200,000.00, and located at the north edge of Angola in Steuben County, is expected to be completed in 1956.

A new Army Reserve Unit for Steuben County was organized and federally recognized on the 4th day of April, 1955. The official designation of this new unit is the 317th Company Engineers (Pontoon Bridge) with its home station at Tri-State College, Angola, Indiana. The strength of the unit at the present writing is three (3) officers and sixteen (16) enlisted men. The present officers are: 2nd Lt. Charles Andrew MacLaughlin, Commanding; 2nd Lt. Carl Gecowets; and 2nd Lt. William Donnigan.

This brief chapter on the Military History of Steuben County ends with the fervent prayer that this nation, under God, might remain strong, serving as a good neighbor to all nations of the world, following the motto of "live and help live," to the intent that wars might cease and that the Prince of Peace might rule our land henceforth forever more.



### American Legion Posts of Steuben County

*By Lee Hirsch*

#### Angola Post No. 31

On August 15, 1919, in a tent on the northwest corner of the public square, fifteen returned soldiers from World War I signed an application requesting an American Legion Post in Angola. These men were as follows:

Guy Shaughniss	Heber Haggerty
Levi P. Ritchie	W. H. Lane*
Bruce Andres*	George Hendry*
C. H. Austin*	Clifford Wilkinson*
J. T. Emerson	Imo Smith*
Dean Cline*	S. I. Brooks
Lee Hirsch*	Earle Moss*
F. B. Humphreys	

(\*These men were still members in 1954)

The charter for the Angola Post was received August 20, 1919.

The meetings of the Angola Post No. 31 were held in many places. At various times the members met in the old Red Men's Hall in a room in the southeast corner of the square, and later over

The Eat Restaurant. In 1922 or 1923 a room on the second floor in the southwest corner of the square was purchased from the Masonic Lodge. This purchase was made possible by the Angola Post being made recipient of \$1600.00, which was part of the County War Chest left after World War I. The other part of the War Chest was given to the Fremont Post of the American Legion.

Seeing the need for larger quarters, since returning soldiers from World War II were to be admitted to the American Legion, the Angola Post purchased the present site at 704 East Maumee. Extensive repairs were done on this building and in 1951 the east wing was added. The present building is now ample for the large membership of world War I, World War II, and the newly admitted Korean veterans.

Affiliated with the Angola Post No. 31 of the American Legion are the subsidiary organizations of the 40 and 8, the American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 31, and the 8 and 40 Salon. The Angola Post No. 31 has always been one of the most active and patriotic organizations in the community. It has been very active in Child Welfare, Junior Baseball, Service Officers' work for the disabled, and for widows and orphans. Since the Post owns approximately four acres surrounding its present home, it maintains one of the finest baseball parks in the city of Angola. This park is used daily by children of the community and by students of Tri-State College.

For five years the Angola Post No. 31 Drum and Bugle Corps held the Class B State championship. For three years the Post sponsored a male chorus which furnished music for the community on many occasions and won second place in State competition. At present the Post has one of the finest color squads in the Department of Indiana which is called upon on many occasions for community appearances. The sale of and the proper display of flags throughout the community has been one of the Post's major undertakings. The color squad and firing squad turn out for many military funerals.

Angola Post No. 31 currently boasts a membership of 658. The following men have been Commanders of Angola Post No. 31:

Guy Shaughniss**	1919-1920
(First Commander)	
Sam Brooks	1920-1921
Maurice Parsell	1921-1922
K. C. Emerson	1922-1923



## STEUBEN COUNTY HISTORY

Ray Gallagher	1923-1924
Frank Tiffany	1924-1925
Luther Ott**	1925-1926
Bart Ritter**	1926-1927
Harry Ritter	1927-1928
Dale Wise	1928-1929
Sam Pence**	1929-1930
Lee Hirsch	1930-1931
Clyde McBride	1931-1932
Don Gilbert	1932-1933
Enos Parsell	1933-1934
Fred Zimmerman	1934-1935
Milo Certain**	1935-1936
Doan Somerlott**	1936-1937
Oliver Gartner	1937-1938
Clarence Smith	1938-1939
Thomas Weaver	1939-1940
Dan Munson	1940-1941
Leonard Boyce	1941-1942
Glenn McCool	1942-1943
(Present home bought)	
Charles Rodebaugh	1943-1944
(Present home dedicated)	
Emery H. Boyd	1944-1945
Theodore Hopkins**	1945-1946
Ford Folck	1946-1947
Ralph Crothers	1947-1948
Theodore T. Wood	1948-1949
R. Wendell Jarrard	1949-1950

Merritt D. Boyer	1950-1951
(East addition dedicated)	
Lewis Gray	1951-1952
Dean E. Wilson	1952-1953
George Meyer	1953-1954
Robert L. Cary	1954-1955
L. Dean Goings	1955-1956
(**These men are deceased)	

The following have served as District Commanders:

Harry Ritter  
Walfred Lindstrom  
Dan Munson  
Emery H. Boyd  
Lee Hirsch

#### Ashley-Hudson Post No. 457

The Ashley-Hudson American Legion Post, meeting at the McKee building at Hudson, Indiana, received its charter in May of 1946. The men starting the Post were: John Wolfe, Russell Shumaker, Seth Shumaker, Ralph Mills, and Gene Morr.

In 1948 the meeting place of Post 457 was changed to the Ashley Town Hall, and later a lease was obtained on the rooms over Duncan's store. In 1949 the Ashley-Hudson Legion Home and the old Robinett building were bought and made into one Legion Home.

The following men have been Commanders and Vice-Commanders of Ashley-Hudson Post No. 457:

Year	Commander	Vice-Commander	No. Members
1947-1948	John Wolfe	Russell Shumaker	50
1948-1949	John Wolfe	Clyde Vaughn	60
1949-1950	Tyraunnis Schlosser	Seth Shumaker	75
1950-1951	Othal Boyd	Andy Cain	103
1951-1952	Dayton Lockwood	Earl DeLucenay	65
1952-1953	Othal Boyd	Lawrence Firestone	114
1953-1954	Cletus Sanders	James Lepley	58
1954-1955	Earl DeLucenay	Rolland "Zip" Sanders	119
1955-1956	Othal Boyd	Duane Jennings	

#### Cassel Post No. 257, Fremont

After the close of World War I Cassel Post No. 257 of the American Legion of Fremont, Indiana, was organized. It was named in memory of Lieut. Lee Stanley Cassel, who was born in Fremont October 23, 1889, and was instantly killed on November 4, 1918, a week before the Armistice was signed, while tending the wounded in an Aid Tent.

The first members of Cassel Post were: Donald Wells, Edison Martin, Floyd Grim, Ed Myers, Dr. B. A. Blosser, Doin Barry, Frank Hall, Ernest For-ester, Paul Crawford, George Harding, K. Smith, Saul Ritter, Henry Wells, L. C. Weigle, Len Wingard, and Russel Roberts.

On December 27, 1921, the Post held its first

annual election as follows: Commander Ed. V. Myers; Vice-Commander, B. A. Blosser; Adjutant, Frank P. Hall; Finance Officer, Rolland J. Weaver; Sergeant at Arms, Doin Barry.

From 1923 to 1946 the Commanders of the Post were: Van Berry, A. J. Weaver, L. A. Doster, B. A. Blosser, George F. Harding, Jr., and Ralph Brattin.

Following are the officers of the last ten years:

	Commander	Adjutant
1946	B. A. Blosser	Leslie Weigle
1947	Ross Lippincott	Charles Triplett
1948	Benson Everett	Charles Triplett
	Guy Throop	
1949	Charles Triplett	Gordon Stroh
1950	Dale Abbott	Harold Mounts
1951	Harold Mounts	Robert Knisely
1952	Donald Palmerton	R. O. Hippensteele
1953	Oliver Petry	R. O. Hippensteele
1954	Raymond Narthan	Oliver Petry
1955	Philip Michael	Dale Abbott

Cassel Post of the American Legion sponsored the Boy Scouts in Fremont, has participated in Bond Drives, Memorial Day Services, and many other community projects, and has worked faithfully to fulfill all its obligations.

#### Orland Post No. 423

An organization meeting for the Orland American Legion Post No. 423 was held June 17, 1946, in Carl Cary's Welding Shop. Charter members were:

W. E. Allen	Robert W. Kellett
W. E. Brewster	Robert W. Keyes
Paul L. Cockerel	Alger S. Penix
Frank F. DeVolder	Rolland J. Penix
Ralph H. Elliott	Lawrence E. Ransbottom
Robert L. Emerick	Allison F. Stayner
Henry L. Ernsberger	Leland W. Stayner
Orville K. Fair	Ora Jean VanWagner
Robert Ernsberger	

The first Commander was Floyd Carpenter, who served two terms—1946-1947 and 1947-1948. In 1947 there were 160 members, and in 1948 there were 223 members. During Mr. Carpenter's term the Orland Post led the state in percentage of quota the first year, and had the honor of leading the state parade. Also during his term the present Legion Home was purchased.

Later Commanders were:

- 1949—Robert Ernsberger—288 members.
- 1950—Robert Kellett—260 members. The Post was at that time one of the top 20 in the State.
- 1951—Allison Stayner—220 members. During Mr. Stayner's term the mortgage on the Legion Home was paid off.
- 1952—Henry Ernsberger—237 members.
- 1953—Myron Welker—232 members.
- 1954—Hermit Penix—288 members.
- 1955—Robert Keyes—303 members.
- 1956—A. J. Booth

Orland Post No. 423 has been very active in all Legion programs. Starting with only 17 Charter members and now having a membership of over 300 is an accomplishment of which the Post is very proud, as the population of the town is 386.

The Post has been active in the 40 and 8 Society, and at the present time there are 18 members in good standing in DeKalb County Voiture 642.

Orland Post has also had a very active Auxiliary Unit. The following women have been Presidents:

1948—Clara Carpenter	1952—Francis Stayner
1949—Louise Fair	1953—Gladys Ayers
1950—Doris Emerick	1954—Dolores Keyes
1951—Vera Buchanan	1955—Joan Butler

#### "The Last Full Measure of Devotion"

In World War I, twenty-eight of Steuben County's finest young men gave their lives on the altar of our country. They were:

Henry Dewey Anderson (May 30, 1898-Sept. 23, 1918). Son of Calvin and Susan Anderson, of Pleasant Lake. Member 1st battalion, 13th regiment, U.S. Marine corps. Died on board ship VonSteuben, buried in Pleasant Lake cemetery.

Lee Lowell Bair (Oct. 5, 1899-Oct. 1, 1918). Son of Alvaro and Mary L. Bair, of Pleasant township. Member S.A.T.C., of Tri-State College. Died of pneumonia; buried in Pleasant Lake cemetery.

Edward Beigh (Dec. 26, 1889—July 21, 1919). Son of Edwin and Hannah Beigh, Salem township. Entered service Sept. 15, 1917. 83rd Division Motor Transport Corps. Died in Embarkation Hospital, New York; buried in Block Church Cemetery, Salem township.

Carl A. Bushard (March 27, 1894-Aug. 11, 1917). Son of Rebecca Bushard (Nettleman). Co. B Third Regiment. Died in Fort Wayne Hospital; buried in Orland cemetery.



Lieut. Lee Cassell (Nov. 18, 1889—Nov. 4, 1918). Son of Jacob and Ida Cassell, Fremont township. Entered service Oct. 12, 1917. Member 130th Field Ambulance, 10th Battalion. Killed while attending wounded at first aid station, Englefontaine, France.

Carl Frederick Clark (Dec. 30, 1898-Oct. 30, 1918). Son of Elmer and Myrtle Clark, Hudson. Member S.A.T.C., Tri-State College. Died of influenza; buried in Circle Cemetery, Hudson.

David Ogden Cross (Aug. 26, 1894-Oct. 19, 1918). Son of Origen and Luella Cross, Pleasant Lake. Entered service Aug. 30, 1918. Headquarters Troops, 19th division. Died at Camp Dodge, Iowa; buried in Pleasant Lake cemetery.

Lieut. Gale Friday (Mar. 1, 1896-Nov. 14, 1918). Son of Aaron and Melissa Friday, Fremont. Entered service Aug. 30, 1918. 27th Machine Gun Battalion. Died of pneumonia, Nov. 14, 1918, Camp Sheridan, Ala.; buried in Fremont cemetery.

Harry S. Guerney (Aug. 13, 1889-Oct. 18, 1918). Son of Charles H. and Fannie E. Guerney, Clear Lake township. Entered service June, 1918. Co. M, 333rd Infantry. Died overseas, place unknown; place of burial unknown.

Franklin G. Hackett (Feb. 8, 1893-Dec. 3, 1917). Son of Frank M. and Clara E. Hackett, Millgrove township. Company B, 137th Field Artillery. Died of pneumonia at Camp Shelby, Miss.; buried in East Gilead, Mich., cemetery.

Earl Clifton Hardy (Sept. 22, 1892-Oct. 3, 1918). Son of William and Elma Hardy, Scott township. Entered service Aug. 29, 1918. Co. H, 77th Inf. Died of pneumonia at Camp Custer; buried in Jamestown cemetery.

Merritt M. Hawkins (Nov. 28, 1893-Sept. 21, 1918). Son of Elihu and Almeda Hawkins, of Jamestown township. Entered service Dec. 11, 1917. Signal Corps Unit. Died at Sacramento, Cal.; buried in Jamestown cemetery.

Floyd C. Keckler (Mar. 8, 1897-Oct. 14, 1918). Son of James and Nellie Keckler of Jackson township. Entered service June 27, 1918. Headquarters Company, 18th Training battalion. Died of influenza at Camp Taylor; buried in Flint cemetery.

George Henry King (May 21, 1895-Dec. 24, 1917). Son of Edward S. and Sarah L. King, of Jamestown township. Company L, 134th Infantry. Died of pneumonia in Base Hospital, Camp Cody; buried in Jamestown cemetery.

Charles E. Lyons (May 5, 1898-Oct. 6, 1918). Son

of Obra and Anna Lyons, Millgrove township. Entered regular army May 1, 1917. Co. I, 59th Inf. 4th Division. Killed in action near Verdun, France; buried in Arlington cemetery, Va.

Frank C. Masten (July 16, 1898-Oct. 24, 1918). Son of David and Emma Masten, Pleasant township. Co. B, 3rd Inf. Member 137th Field Artillery. Died of pneumonia at Manchester, Eng., Oct. 24, 1918; buried in Pleasant Lake cemetery.

Paul George Neutz (March 16, 1899-Oct. 21, 1918.) Son of George and Ida Neutz, Jamestown township. Member S.A.T.C. Tri-State College. Died from influenza, Angola; buried in Jamestown cemetery.

George L. D. Parrish (April 26, 1894-Oct. 15, 1918). Son of George C. and Katherine Nolan Parrish, Pleasant township. Enlisted regular army, July 11, 1917. 28th Ambulance Co., 4th Division. Killed in Argonne Forest while rendering first aid to bunk mate; buried Romaine cemetery, France.

Leo Ross Porter (Feb. 26, 1889-Aug. 14, 1918). Son of John and Josephine Porter, Scott township. Enlisted regular army, April, 1917. 119th Field Artillery. Killed in action in France; buried in Circle Hill cemetery, Angola.

Capt. Glenn D. Ransom (Oct. 13, 1884-Sept. 26, 1918). Son of Amasa D. and Ella A. Ransom, of Quincy, Mich. Enlisted from Hamilton, Ind., Aug. 10, 1917 in Canadian service. 5th Cameron Highlanders. Killed in action Sept. 26, 1918, Poperinghe, West Flanders; buried at Quincy, Mich. Awarded British Military Cross for bravery.

Ernest Paul Rex (Apr. 13, 1896-Oct. 9, 1918). Son of William and Caroline Rex, Kinderhook, Mich. Entered service July 22, 1918. Battery E, 41st Field Artillery. Died of pneumonia at Camp Custer; buried in Jamestown cemetery.

Raymond C. Shipe (July 13, 1895-Dec. 16, 1917). Son of Isaiah and Anna Locke Shipe, of Jamestown township. Enlisted regular army Aug. 16, 1917. 327th Automatic Replacement. Died of pneumonia at Camp Sill, Okla.; buried in Jamestown cemetery.

Homer W. Teegardin (June 28, 1895-Oct. 16, 1918). Son of Silas and Temperance Teegardin. Entered service July 23, 1918. Battery B, 4th Training Division. Died of influenza at Camp Taylor, Ky., buried in Jamestown cemetery.

Carl Hiram Throop (Jan. 27, 1900-Sept. 26, 1918). Son of Warren and Rilla Throop, of Clear Lake township. Entered U.S. Navy July 26, 1918. Died

of pneumonia at Camp Perry; buried in Teeter's cemetery, Clear Lake.

Clair F. Throop (July 30, 1893-Oct. 16, 1918). Son of Frank M. and Florence I. Throop, of Clear Lake township. Entered service Aug. 30, 1918. Medical corps. Died of pneumonia at Camp Dodge, Iowa; buried in Teeter's cemetery, Clear Lake.

Pyrl Lamont Tiffany (May 19, 1897-Oct. 7, 1918). Son of Frank L. and Pearl M. Tiffany, Angola, Ind. Entered service May 15, 1918. Officer's Training school, Camp Grant, Ill. Died of pneumonia; buried in Circle Hill cemetery, Angola, Ind.

Wesley Orrin Wheaton (Feb. 17, 1896-Dec. 24, 1917). Son of Albert and Hattie Wheaton, Scott township. Co. B, 3rd Regt., I.N.G. Died of pneumonia at Camp Shelby, Miss., buried in South Scott cemetery.

David Aldrich Wilson (Dec. 18, 1887-Dec. 23, 1918). Son of James and Mary Wilson, Richland township. Entered service July 23, 1918. Battery B, 2nd Regt., F.A. Returned from Camp Taylor ill, and died at home; buried in Richland township.

Thirty-six men gave their lives in defense of their country, to preserve for us our liberties purchased at great price by our forefathers, in World War II. In the Angola Herald of June 1, 1945, were published their names, with their photographs so far as available.

This is a list of their names, and who they were:

Capt. Dred Francis Parks, 24, U.S. Marine Corps, of Pleasant Lake, killed in a plane crash at Goleta, Calif., on September 18, 1942.

Richard Lee Miller, S1/c, U.S. Navy, 18, son of Mrs. Mabel Hollinger, of Angola, lost on destroyer Meredith off Save Islands in October, 1942.

Pfc. Charles G. Northern, 20, U.S. Marine Corps, resident of Hudson, killed in action on Guadalcanal, October 26, 1942.

Pvt. Myron Donald White, 27, U.S. Army, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe White, of Hudson, killed December 5, 1942, in Buna-Gona area, New Guinea.

S/Sgt. Duer Heyman, 25, U.S. Army Air Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Heyman of Ashley, killed December 18, 1942, in plane crash in Africa.

Cpl. Kenneth Hutchins, 22, U.S. Army, son of Lyle Hutchins of Coldwater, and Mrs. Bessie Hutchins, of Angola, killed December 28, 1942, in action in Buna sector, New Guinea.

Sgt. Leland L. Sharp, of Hamilton, killed in action December 28, 1942, in New Guinea. Awarded Silver Star, posthumously.

Pfc. Donald Straw, 22, U.S. Army, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Straw, Jamestown, killed April 3, 1943, in North Africa.

Pfc. Jack Sharpless, U.S. Army (Infantry), of Angola, killed May 2, 1943, in Alaska.

Pvt. Louis G. Hanes, 21, U.S. Engineers Corps, son of Mrs. Jeanette Garns of Orland, killed October 10, 1943, in Italy.

Cpl. Robert McNaughton, 21, U.S. Army, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie McNaughton of Ray, lost life when his troop transport was sunk in Mediterranean area on November 27, 1943.

Pvt. Justus Rowilson, 21, with Tank Destroyer Battalion U.S. Army, husband of Mrs. Clara Rowilson, Angola, killed December 2, 1943, in truck crash at Camp Hood, Tex.

Pvt. Dale Coney, 22, U.S. Army, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Coney, Pleasant Lake, killed February 4, 1944, in Italy.

Pfc. Rendell L. Wheaton, 22, U.S. Army (Infantry), son of Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Wheaton, Angola, died February 26 in Italy of wounds received in action. Awarded Silver Star, posthumously, for gallantry in action near Cassino.

Pvt. Henry Wade Painter, 23, U.S. Army, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Painter, of Fremont, died May 29, 1944, in England, of a heart attack.

Pvt. Ralph Miller, U.S. Army, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Miller, of Orland, killed May 30, 1944, in Italy.

Lt. Dan Barnes, 21, U.S. Army Air Corps, son of Mrs. Marie Barnes of Warren, Mich., killed in action over Rumania on June 24, 1944.

Pvt. James R. Coe, 24, U.S. Army (Infantry), of Ashley, killed July 17, 1944, in France.

Lt. Roland Stoy, 26, U.S. Army (Infantry), son of Mr. and Mrs. James Stoy of Ashley, killed July 17, 1944, in France.

Pvt. Herbert Ned Crampton, Army (Infantry), killed August 10, 1944, in France.

Lt. Stanley G. Parsell, 20, U.S. Army Air Corps, (navigator), of Angola, son of Mrs. A. B. Parsell, of Elkhart, killed September 24, 1944, in plane crash at Ardmore Army Air Field, Ardmore, Okla.

Pfc. Harry Mote, 21, U.S. Army (Infantry), son of Mr. and Mrs. Conway Mote of Angola, killed October 9, 1944, in France.

Pvt. Alvin Wanholm, of Clear Lake, U. S. Army (Infantry), killed in action on Italian front on October 16, 1944.

Pvt. Curtis Parks, 25, U.S. Army (Infantry), hus-



band of Irene Shaffer Parks, of Angola, killed in action in Germany on November 20, 1944.

Pfc. Darwin D. Greenfield, 20, U.S. Army (Infantry), of Hudson, son of Albert Greenfield, of Everson, Washington, died December 3, 1944, of wounds received in action in Germany.

T/5 Aaron Brand, 22, U.S. Army, Quartermaster Corps, brother of Gerald Brand, Pleasant Lake, killed in action in Belgium on December 16, 1944.

Pfc. Charles Mobley, U.S. Army (Infantry), son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Mobley, Angola, killed in action in France on January 14, 1945.

Pfc. Robert Udell Lepley, 29, U.S. Army (Infantry), son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Lepley, Ashley, killed in action on Luzon, Philippine Islands, on Feb. 15, 1945.

Pfc. Raymond C. Davidson, 21, U.S. Army (Infantry), son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Davidson, formerly of Angola, later of Kokomo, killed in action in Western Germany on February 22, 1945.

Pfc. Franklin D. Fee, 19, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, son of Mrs. Blanche Fritz of Angola, and Lloyd Fee, of Hamilton, killed in action on Iwo Jima on Feb. 27, 1945.

Pfc. Byron D. Strait, 21, U.S. Army (Infantry), son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Strait, of Angola, died April 16, 1945, in an army hospital in France, of pneumonia.

Sgt. Corwin Sindel, 25, U.S. Army, ordnance Company, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Sindel, formerly of Angola, later of Coldwater, Mich.,

died in an army hospital in Luzon, Philippine Islands, on April 21, 1945.

Pfc. Delbert L. Coe, 22, of Pleasant Lake, U.S. Army (Infantry), killed in action on Luzon, Philippine Islands, on April 29, 1945, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Coe of Pioneer, Ohio.

Lt. Henry F. Kratz, 26, U.S. Army, died May 14, 1945, in England, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kratz, of Angola, husband of Mary Buck Kratz.

In addition, so far as could be ascertained at that time, three Steuben County men were still missing:

George Anspaugh, U.S. Navy, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Anspaugh, of Angola, reported missing in action while serving on the U.S. Houston, in the battle of the Java Sea, in January, 1942. George has now been given up as lost.

S/Sgt. Richard L. Walsh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Olen Walsh, of Pleasant Lake, missing in action in Belgium since Jan. 4, 1945. His father is now employed as a meat cutter in the Mast Market at Angola. Richard, it was finally disclosed, lost his life in the Battle of the Bulge.

Lt. Roscoe Nedele, U.S. Army Air Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nedele, of Angola, and husband of Joan Schaeffer Nedele, of Fremont. He was missing in action in March, 1945. Lt. Nedele was rescued by the forces of General Patton three and one-half months later, at Moosburg, north of Munich.

# Industries



## Public Utilities

*By Thurman P. Charles*

The first telephone line in Steuben County ran from the town of Angola to the village of Orland, and thence north one and one-half miles to the farm home of Lorenzo Taylor. The men responsible for its construction were Edson A. Wilder, an Orland hardware merchant, and said Lorenzo Taylor, farmer, who was at the time (1893-97) serving as Treasurer of Steuben County, and residing in Angola.

About 1894, these two men formed a partnership for the further construction and operation of telephone service in this area, and soon afterward they established a telephone exchange office in Angola, and began building line to other towns in the county.

In the year 1895 the business was incorporated as the Steuben County Electric Telephone Company, with Floyd Averill, Dr. J. E. Waugh, Doan Somerlott, Sol A. Wood, and N. W. Gilbert becoming associated with the organization. Lorenzo Taylor was president, and Edson A. Wilder, secretary-treasurer of the company.

November 1, 1898, John Carson of Angola began work for this Steuben County Electric Telephone Company as its chief lineman, and he continued in the employment of the company and its successors for a period of 45 years, retiring from service July 1, 1944. Mr. Carson has furnished much accurate data regarding the past and present history of the telephone company service of our county.

John Carson and John Sutton set the first telephone pole within the town of Fremont. Among others who helped with early construction work were George Griffith, Harley Barnes, Guy Tingle, Frank Kankamp, "Hi-Ball" Enzor, and O. G. Stevens.

The first Exchange Office of the Steuben County Electric Telephone Company was located in the Gillis Block in Angola; and Mary Denny Boots was the chief operator.

In 1904, Harry E. Wilder, son of Edson A. Wilder, became the acting secretary-treasurer for the Company, and later its general manager. The expansion of the Steuben County Electric Telephone system during the next twenty years was most remarkable, and was due almost solely to the business management of Harry E. Wilder and the capable employees whom he associated with him. During this period a central station and supply shop was erected on the corner of North Wayne and West Gilmore streets, and the cut over from the Exchange operated in the Gillis block on the south side of the public square was effected in 1924. For several years Claude E. Morse was associated with the company as its bookkeeper.

During the years 1906-1912, inclusive, the Steuben County Electric Telephone Company met competition in the organization of a cooperative telephone company by the farmers of Steuben County. The idea of the farmers who sponsored this undertaking was, that by building and repairing his own telephone lines the farmer could have his telephone service at a much lower rate than that charged by the independent company. Farmers' Telephone lines were constructed throughout the county, the Farmers' Telephone exchanges were established at every town in the county. After a few years of operation, however, the "up-keep" of the lines and the expense of exchange service was too great to make the cooperative lines profitable to the farmers, so they consolidated with, or turned over their holdings to the Steuben County Electric Telephone Company. This merger took place about 1912-1913.

Official records indicate that in 1913 the name of the Steuben County Electric Telephone company was changed to the Home Telephone Company. Harry E. Wilder continued as Secretary-Treasurer, and John Carson was Plant Manager.

In the early '20's when the Home Telephone Company sought to raise its rates for service, a group of citizens revolted and many had their



telephones removed. This crippled the Company but temporarily. By judicious curtailing of expenses, consolidating exchange stations, and abandoning or selling off some of the remote parts of its extension lines, the Home Telephone Company continued to operate on a paying basis. And gradually the number of patrons was restored to its former status, and then increased.

In 1931 the Home Telephone Company sold its 201 North Wayne Street office building and lot, along with its other holdings, to the Indiana Associated Telephone Company, and in that year John Carson became district manager of its north-eastern Indiana lines. He continued as such manager until his retirement on July 1, 1944.

William Rawson, who helped verify much of this earlier history of telephone business in our county, particularly that of the Farmers' Company with which he was employed throughout its existence, continued as an employee of the Home Telephone Company and its successor, The Indiana Associated Telephone Corporation. In 1944 he was made Plant Supervisor over this area and continued in that capacity until his retirement in 1953. He had been in continuous employment with our local telephone companies for 46 years.

Somewhere along the line the Indiana Associated Telephone Company became the General Telephone Company of Indiana, and the local plant at Angola has been identified by that name since May, 1952. During the same year it acquired additional office property on North Wayne Street, and enlarged its plant, thus increasing its investment in the Angola exchange by 163%, from \$263,000 to \$690,000.

On November 11, 1953, the General Telephone Company installed its 2500th telephone in the city of Angola. At that time the operation of its twenty-four hour per day service required a force of 45 trained operators; and to supervise and construct telephone lines in this area the company employed a force of over 25 trained telephone men. The yearly pay roll of the employed totaled \$221,000.

The present Commercial Manager for the Steuben County branch of the General Telephone Company is N. E. Watson, who in 1953 succeeded A. J. May who had been manager since 1950. Mr. Watson came to Angola from Lafayette, where since January 1947 he had been employed with the Company as an accountant in its commercial department.

The history of the telephone utilities in Steuben

County would not be complete without mention of the efficient persons who served as operators of the switchboards in exchange offices. Especially those who served in the early days of rural communities where equipment was, as yet, crude, and lines overloaded with patrons. We have already mentioned Mary Denny Boots as the first exchange operator in the city of Angola, and an early assistant to her and later a chief operator was Miss Cora Sickles, who served both at Angola and Fremont, for many years.

Other Angola operators during the earlier years were Lola French, Jennie Stahl McGrew, Lilah Wert Swift, Anna Wert, Flossie Meek Morrison and Pearl Meek McIlvenna. For a time Harry and Cora Dally Aldrich served as night operators.

At Ray, Miss Matie Davis gave good service, and was later transferred to Fremont. Cora Sickles also served Fremont patrons for 15 years, and was succeeded by Mrs. Gladys Mingus. Mr. and Mrs. Curt Meek also served Fremont exchange.

Orland records name: Mrs. Loa Eckert, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Spangle, Alta Kelso, and Mrs. Wert Paxson.

Salem Center Exchange was served by the Brown family.

Hamilton exchange was first served by the Dargue store; and by the Eli Goods; Alta Brown White, Viola Reed, and others.

At Metz, Mrs. George (Mary) Sutton operated the first switchboard; later the Earl Meades, Jessie Goodale, Ollie Bowles, and Florence Bassett. But the longest service was given by the daughters of D. A. Williams: Bernice Williams Roberts, chief operator, assisted by her sisters, Zama (Mrs. George Walters), Eva (Mrs. Clyde Reese), Lois Williams Ballhorn, Norma Williams Castner, and Phyllis Williams Kannel.

Among Pleasant Lake switchboard operators we recall: Maude Harpham; Mable Shackford Smith; Mrs. Orville Stroh; Mrs. Carol Straw; and Mrs. Georgia Walsh.

The list of employees of the General Telephone Company operating in Steuben County was by departments, and in alphabetical sequence as follows:

TRAFFIC—(switchboard)—Margaret Anthony, Mae Anstill, Joan Beck, Roberta Berkes, Geraldine Burkley, Peggy Bressler, Marilyn Canute, Joe-Anne Carr, Margaret Cimbal, Mary Cimbal, Lorene Cole, Mayme Collett, Dawn Crone, Wilma Decker, Rhine Dole, Esperance Eff, Marjorie Fifer,

Joyce Fradenburg, Jane Goss, Shirley Hallman, Nedda Heath, Janet Hufnagle, Imogene Johnson, Frances Knotek, Shirley Lockhart, Betty Mae Miller, Mary Miller, Janet Lee Mounts, Evelyn Nisonger, Betty Luxford, Marguerite Manahan, Laura Marsden, Imogene McIntoch, Carol Rademacher, Virginia Ritter, Dolores Schaeffer, Donna Jean Shaffer, Mary Stokes, Cora Tuttle, Norma Walters, Anna Wert, Kaye Williamson, Lila Word.

· **COMMERCIAL**—Ila Beard, Sally Mondhank, Norman Watson, and Gloria Wetherell.

**PLANT**—Benton Ballard, Robert Berry, Gene Campbell, Dale Champion, Weir Crain, Virgil Dixon, Harlan Dowell, Charles Dygert, Galeand Eggleston, E. M. Feyesh, Paul Gordon, Raymond Gordon, Marion Graham, Clinton Hantz, J. P. Jones, Jacob Keesler, Willard Maugherman, Denver Maxton, Raymond Meek, Raymond Moughler, Ralph Moughler, Macie Noragon, Norris Richmond, John Rinehart, James Ryan, William Ryan, Robert Saxer, Oscar Shumaker, Jr., Herbert Slentz, Robert Wagner, Samuel Wilder, Jr., Edward Wilson, Marve Hinshaw.

### Electric

#### Angola

When Benjamin Franklin in his time eagerly greeted the first electric sparks which he drew from the clouds down a kite string, he probably was no more excited than was a young man still in his teens who produced the first electric light ever to pierce the darkness in the town of Angola, Indiana.

Mechanically minded Johnny Weiss had become interested in an article published in the *Scientific American* in July 1887, which described a plan for building a generator and producing light by electricity. The copy of the magazine containing the article which was Johnny's work sheet, is still in the possession of his brother Carl Weiss, of Angola, as is also the generator which he produced from the description therein.

The model plant which Johnny Weiss constructed had a capacity of 52 volts, supplying current for eight 16-candle power lamps, with carbon filaments of the original Edison type. Motive power for the plant was developed by an old fashioned high wheel bicycle set upon blocks, and was transmitted by a belt from the wheel from which the tire had been removed.

It is related that the little plant which Johnny built in the home of his father, Leonard Weiss, on

West Broad Street, attracted attention like one of the wonders of the age. Many local people came to gaze and to admire. Of course, the limitations of "leg power" hampered somewhat the scope of its practical accomplishment. But later, the young inventor connected his generator to the shaft of a steam engine in a local factory, and it made at least temporary contribution to the convenience of its benefactors.

Perhaps along with the electric current it produced, young Weiss' invention generated an idea in the minds of several citizens of Angola that the town was in need of a public lighting system so that people could walk more safely on the uneven board sidewalks which lined the hilly streets, and in places were raised to rather dangerous levels to span the water standing in the low spots after a hard rain. A company of citizens (in 1889) including John J. Kinney, W. G. Croxton and Orville Carver, backed young Weiss in the organization and development of the Schuyler Electric Company. They secured a generator from the Jenny Electric Company of Ft. Wayne, the predecessor of the General Electric Company, and it was installed in a building on the site now occupied by the Owen's Warehouses.

The first lights offered to the public for use on the streets and in the stores were of the arc type in which light was produced by the jumping of the current in an open space between two carbon candles. The system operated on one continuous circuit throughout the city, and if there was a defective light at one point the whole city was in darkness. The Schuyler Electric Company later added incandescent service for residential lighting.

In 1894 another light plant was built by Frank B. Morse, under the name of Central Electric Company, and it was located in a factory building on the site now occupied by the Model Grocery, on the corner of West Gilmore and North West streets.

In the early nineties Charles Pilliod, Sr., operating the Orland Milling Company, interested Messrs. Kinney and Croxton in the erection of a large milling plant on West Broad street in Angola, known as the National Mill Water & Light Company, and designed to engage in all three enterprises. They moved a large steam engine from the Orland plant to operate the property, and soon thereafter (1895) acquired both the Schuyler Electric Company and the Central Electric Company, and moved them into the new plant.



This National Mill Water & Light Company continued in operation until the Kinney & Company bank failure in 1903. Then the Ft. Wayne Trust Company foreclosed the mortgage and operated the system until in 1904-1905 the Angola Railway and Power Company was organized. It operated the business until 1910 when the Company reorganized, and operated under the name of Angola Light and Power Company.

In 1911 the Angola Light & Power Company was sold to E. J. Condon & Sons, known as the Indiana Utilities Company, and it operated under that name until 1923 when it was changed to the Indiana Electric Utilities.

In 1925 the Indiana Electric Utilities was sold to the Calumet Gas and Electric Company, which sold to the Northern Indiana Public Service Company, in 1926.

During the successive ownerships the power plant of the National Mills was junked and current (electric) was imported from large central plants. Later the building was destroyed by fire, and the water services were assumed by the city of Angola, which owned the distribution system.

Also was discontinued the operation of an Electric Railway Short Line that had been builded about 1905 from the city of Angola to the south end of Lake James, to a point known as Paltytown, and which was operated until 1915 or 1916.

Electric service was given to the Angola public from dusk to midnight until the year 1894 when service was extended to daylight. Since 1913 service has been for the full twenty-four hours of each day. The early schedule of rates is unknown, no permanent records having been kept.

Today (1954) Angola is one of the largest consumers of electric current in the whole system of the Northern Indiana Public Service. The Company has enlarged offices by building a fine new building in the northwest section of the city, from which they serve other points in the county, including Fremont, Orland, Pleasant Lake, Hudson, Helmer, and sections on Lakes Gage, George, and Clear Lake. (Earlier history of electric service at these points is given in additional paragraphs.)

1954

At the present time the Angola District of the Northern Indiana Public Service Company is serving approximately 11,000 customers retail, and wholesaling to three Rural Electric Membership

Corporation cooperatives, located in four north-eastern Indiana Counties. To provide services for present customers and to construct facilities to serve additional customers there are employed in the Angola District approximately sixty (60) employees. Of this number, fourteen have twenty-five years or more service, with an additional sixteen having ten years or more service.

Merle D. Tucker is the present Manager for the Angola offices of the Northern Indiana Public Service Company. The employees are as follows: A. J. Alaura, Robert G. Andrews, William S. Andrews, William C. Barnes, Charles F. Beekman, Mary H. Blackburn, Paul R. Blackburn, Donald S. Bolinger, Willard S. Butz, Laurence D. Call, Ted L. Colbart, Joe W. Crossley, Ralph C. Crothers, Robert J. Dygert, Earl H. Farver, Lawrence Goings, Karl L. Goss, H. G. Grady, Herman A. Haley, Stanley W. Hall, George L. Hendry, Audra E. Hephner, Anna M. Huffine, Norma P. Hull, Norma J. Ickes, J. E. Jackson, Jack D. King, James A. Krock, Robert A. Lowther, Ralph D. McAfoos, Kathryn J. Metzger, Gerald Z. Miller, Max M. Myers, Walter D. Myers, Baxter D. Oberlin, Evelyn M. Osborne, Lester Reinhart, Russell Rinehart, Echo D. Schaul, Delavan W. Sutton, Bradley J. Swift, Paul E. Taylor, Ralph C. Thobe, Ralph E. Thomas, Merle D. Tucker, Roger K. Ulmer, Floyd M. Van Wagner, Robert T. Wallace, Clifford J. Wilkinson.

#### Fremont

In 1891 the town of Fremont purchased and installed a dynamo in the sawmill owned by William Piper. The town built the distribution system. Mr. Piper furnished the power and received one-half the revenue. Service was from dusk until midnight. Eighteen arc lights were installed. The rate was \$1.00 flat rate per month for domestic users, and \$1.25 flat rate per month for commercial users.

Some years later the town built its own steam plant, and service was from dusk until midnight, and 5:00 A.M. until daylight, with an increase in rate of 15c for all customers. This plant furnished A.C. service.

June 12, 1916, the Board of Trustees of the town of Fremont entered into a contract with the Indiana Utilities Company of Angola to furnish service. On October 10, 1917, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution to enter a joint petition with the Indiana Utilities Company to Indiana Public Service Commission to approve the contract. Ordinance 62, passed and adopted November 13, 1919,

granted a franchise and street lighting contract to the Indiana Utilities Company. The Calumet Gas and Electric Company purchased the Indiana Utilities Company interest approximately March 1, 1925. This company sold later to the Northern Indiana Public Service Company, and in 1954 it continues to serve the Fremont community.

#### Orland

About 1910 Robert Sanderson & Son built a distribution system and installed a generator at their water power mill northwest of Orland. Service was for a few hours in the evening and a flat rate was charged. This original rate is unknown. They did not have a franchise nor furnish street lights. This business did not prove financially successful so was discontinued.

Mr. Lloyd Jacobs purchased the hydro station and distribution system in 1916, and received the first franchise from the town late in 1916, or early in 1917, for a term of twenty years.

Meters were installed as soon as possible and the rates were approximately as follows:

First 25 KWH per month @ 11c per KWH  
 Next 25 KWH per month @ 10c per KWH  
 Next 25 KWH per month @ 9c per KWH  
 Over 75 KWH per month @ 8c per KWH

In 1916 the schedule of service was as follows:

Week days	Dusk to 11 P. M.
Saturday	Dusk to 12 midnight
Sunday	Dusk to 10 P. M.
6 winter months	5 P. M. to 7 A. M.

About 1918 to 1919 morning service from 7:00 A. M. to 11:00 A. M. was furnished on Tuesday and Friday. In the fall of 1920 service was extended from 5:00 A. M. until midnight, and in 1925 the service was extended to twenty-four hours per day.

With the 1916 franchise a five year street light contract was furnished on a moonlight schedule. There were to be sixteen 60 candle power lights at \$1.50 per month each, and eight 100 candle power lights at \$2.00 each per month.

About April 20, 1925, Mr. Jacobs sold out to the Calumet Gas and Electric Company and they in turn sold to the Northern Indiana Public Service Company in 1926.

The hydro plant that originally served Orland was abandoned shortly after this time and has since been served by a 13,200 volt transmission line.

#### Clear Lake—Steuben County

About 1922 a line was built from Montgomery, Michigan, to the north side of Clear Lake by the Economy Electric Company of Montgomery, which later sold to the Hillsdale County Electric Company in 1925.

In 1926 the Northern Indiana Public Service Company built a line from Fremont to the south and west sides of the same Clear Lake. In 1928 this line was extended on around to the north side of the lake, and the line from Montgomery, Michigan, abandoned.

#### Lake Gage

A single phase line was built to Lake Gage about 1926 by the Northern Indiana Public Service Company. Twenty-four hour service was available throughout the year. There was a connect charge of \$40.00 until 1931.

The only rate filed was Rate "A" effective May 1, 1927. This is \$12.00 per year service charge and energy at 7c per kilowatt hour.

#### Lake George

A 6600 volt single phase line was built in 1930 to the east side of the lake. In 1932 this was extended around the south to the west end serving the community of Jamestown. This was constructed without a franchise by the Northern Indiana Public Service Company. Service was made available 24 hours per day for the entire year.

Service to the Michigan side of the lake was furnished by the Consumers' Power Company at about the same time.

#### Hudson—Steuben County

The original franchise was dated February 24, 1913, to E. J. Condon, I. W. Dunfee, and H. L. Hanley. Service was available 24 hours per day. On March 3, 1913, E. J. Condon, I. W. Dunfee, and H. Hanley sold and transferred this franchise to the Indiana Utilities Company, which the three men owned. In 1925 the Indiana Utilities Company sold out to Calumet Gas and Electric Company, and these in turn to the Northern Indiana Public Service Company in 1926.

#### Helmer

At Helmer a substation was built on the 33,000 volt transmission line to serve Helmer and Stroh in 1927, by the Northern Indiana Public Service Company. This, unincorporated community is served without a franchise. The service has always been 60 cycle, 115-230 volt.



## Pleasant Lake

Indiana Utilities started service in Pleasant Lake in 1913. No franchise has ever been granted.

In 1925 this property was sold to Calumet Gas and Electric Company, and in 1926 to the Northern Indiana Public Service Company.

Twenty-four hour service has always been available, the service being from the Angola plant.

**Indiana-Michigan Lines**

## Hamilton

The development of electric service in the town of Hamilton, in Steuben County, began with a partnership of three men who formed the Hamilton Mill Company in 1912.

A small generator was installed in their plant at the north edge of Hamilton. Water to drive the water wheel which supplied power from a generator came from Hamilton Lake.

The first distribution lines served about a dozen customers in the area, and the plant was operated from sundown until 11:00 P. M. Total revenue for the plant's first month of operation was about thirty-five dollars.

As the demand for additional power grew, in 1916, the firm built a 2,200-volt line along the Wabash Railroad right of way to a small power plant at Edon, Ohio. Shortly after this period electric service was extended to the area around Hamilton.

## Metz

Electric service in the town of Metz predates that of Hamilton by a year. In 1915, a small plant was started by Merl J. Mortorff in Metz. The plant consisted of a 25-hp fuel-oil engine and a 25-kw direct-current generator, and distribution lines to about a dozen customers.

After three years of operation, the plant was sold to Shirley Fee. Mr. Fee operated the plant for about a year. To meet the increased demand for electricity a 2,200-volt line was built from Metz to the Indiana-Ohio line and additional power was purchased from an Ohio utility. The current was metered at the state line. Wholesale price for the power purchased by the Metz Light and Power Company was seven cents per kilowatt hour.

In July, 1925, the Lake Shore Power Company of Indiana, with principal offices in Hamilton, Indiana, purchased both the Hamilton Mill Com-

pany and the Metz Light and Power Company. The company then extended its facilities for electric service in both communities and surrounding area. The company continued to purchase power from an Ohio utility.

It was about this time that street lighting was installed in the town of Hamilton.

In August, 1938, the assets of the Lake Shore Power Company of Indiana were purchased by the Indiana & Michigan Electric Company. The new company completely rebuilt its facilities to meet the increased demand for electric power in the area.

The Hamilton-Metz area was served electrically by Indiana & Michigan Electric Company's South Bend Division until 1950, when the property was transferred to the Fort Wayne Division of the Company. Today (1954) the area receives its electric service from the Butler District of the Indiana & Michigan. The main office for the district is located just outside of Butler on Highway 6.

This Indiana & Michigan Hamilton-Metz service area covers about 30 square miles, and electric service is provided to about 1,000 customers. A 150-kva substation serving the two communities was built in 1938 when the properties were purchased by Indiana and Michigan Company. Today the Hamilton Substation has grown to 2,000-kva capacity as demands for electricity in the area have increased.

As part of the Butler District in the Fort Wayne Division of the Indiana and Michigan, the Hamilton-Metz service area today enjoys a plentiful supply of low cost, dependable electric power from the Indiana and Michigan Electric Company and the seven-state integrated power system of the American Gas and Electric Company.

(Information furnished by I & M Co.)

These figures on the assessed valuation, in 1954, of the Public Utilities in Steuben County were furnished by County Assessor Ralph (Mike) Caswell.

## General Telephone Company:

Hamilton Corporation .....	\$10,750.00
Scott Township .....	17,250.00
Otsego Township .....	14,270.00
Fremont Township .....	20,950.00
Fremont Corporation .....	17,060.00
Orland Corporation .....	2,160.00

Millgrove Township .....	8,990.00
York Township .....	27,900.00
Jackson Township .....	9,170.00
Salem Township .....	4,080.00
Jamestown Township .....	13,700.00
Clear Lake Township .....	2,400.00
Steuben Township .....	29,370.00
Richland Township .....	460.00
Pleasant Township .....	56,640.00
Angola Corporation .....	89,520.00
Angola Personal .....	13,870.00
Ind. Associated Tel. Co. ....	6,810.00

Total .....\$345,350.00

**Northern Indiana Public Service Company:**

Angola Corporation .....	\$449,600.00
Pleasant Township .....	128,520.00
Fremont Township .....	21,060.00
Salem Township .....	47,540.00
Ashley .....	11,700.00
Clear Lake Corporation .....	25,350.00
Clear Lake Township .....	16,730.00
Fremont Corporation .....	42,360.00
Hudson (Steuben) .....	8,400.00
Hudson (Salem) .....	10,770.00
Jackson Township .....	26,710.00
Jamestown Township .....	47,460.00
Millgrove Township .....	22,830.00
Orland .....	16,230.00
Scott Township .....	1,220.00
Steuben Township .....	102,240.00

Total Steuben County .....\$978,720.00

**New York Central Railroad Company:**

Fremont Township .....	\$ 93,160.00
Fremont Corporation .....	23,550.00
Angola Corporation .....	39,210.00
Pleasant Township .....	73,140.00
Steuben Township .....	116,000.00

Total .....\$345,000.00

The American Telegraph and Telephone Co. is the second largest taxpayer in Steuben County. Their total assessed valuation is:

City of Angola .....	\$ 9,530.00
Pleasant Township .....	35,700.00
Steuben Township .....	318,350.00
Jackson Township .....	42,250.00
Salem Township .....	350,110.00

Richland Township .....	144,250.00
Real Estate in Pleasant Twp. ....	31,000.00

Total .....\$931,190.00

Largest assessment is Northern Indiana Public Service Co. \$978,720.00  
Leaving A. T. & T. smaller  
by .....\$47,530.00

**Steuben County Rural Electric Membership Corporation**

Eighteen years ago scarcely 10% of the farmers of the United States of America had electric power for use in their homes and on their farms. Today (1954) approximately 90% of the farmers of America have electricity in their farm homes and buildings, and are able to use the many labor saving devices which electric power makes possible.

The availability of electric power to the farmers of America has helped to bring prosperity and higher standards of living to over three and one-half million of the farm families of the United States. In the 1930's the farmers of America were a poverty stricken people. In recent years rural America has gone through a bloodless revolution because of the increasing availability of electric power. It has made it possible for them to use all kinds of electric appliances all the way from electric pumps and electric milkers to television.

Both farmers and farmers' wives now have all kinds of labor saving devices at their disposal, and the end is not yet. Many other labor saving devices are in the offing. Professor F. W. Duffee, chairman of the Department of Engineering at the University of Wisconsin, reports studies show that farm electrification is still in the very early stages of development. He estimates that not more than twenty-five per cent of the connected load on the farm is represented by farm electrification equipment. Great possibilities lie in the future for the continued greater use of labor saving devices on the farm. Many entirely new uses will be found for electric power.

The cooperation of the federal government and co-operative groups of American farmers has brought new meaning to the free enterprise system.

All this was accomplished because some of the enterprising American farmers had the vision, the



courage, and the capacity for leadership. They had a willingness to face criticism and a determination to accomplish their purpose. They were willing to make real sacrifices for the welfare of their neighbors and the community.



**Morris Hanson**

Our own County possessed such men and a number of them gave their services to the project of forming a rural cooperative in Steuben County. Perhaps one of the most outstanding of these was Mr. Morris Hanson, a farmer living near Fremont, Indiana. Mr. Hanson had been active in the Farm Bureau organization, had served in our State Legislature, and was well aware of the nation-wide and the state-wide movement to secure electricity for the farmers of America.

Mr. Hanson went about the County talking to different groups of rural people, telling them about the great opportunity and the possibility of securing electric power, that lay at their feet. He explained to them how through the formation of a local cooperative they might secure electric power in their homes at a moderate cost. This seemed almost like an impossibility to many, and it took a great deal of persistent effort to awaken folks and secure their cooperation in this enterprise.

The records of the secretary tell of the first meeting being held in the assembly room of the Mid-West Creamery in the City of Angola, on August 27, 1935. Mr. Morris Hanson acted as chairman of the meeting and Mr. Carl Peachey kept the minutes of the meeting. The officers elected were: Theron Miller, president; Ora Butler, vice-president; Carl Peachey, secretary-treasurer. The directors were these three officers, and Morris Hanson and Martin Hanna.

Other meetings were held from time to time through the years of 1936 and 1937. Sometimes the meetings were held in the Steuben Circuit Court Room, sometimes in the Christian Church of Angola, or in the office of the Farm Bureau. The organization was incorporated on March 19, 1937. The following were signers of the Articles of Incorporation and were the first or charter members of the Steuben County Rural Electric Membership Corporation:

Morris Hanson	Fremont, Ind., R.R. 3
J. C. Peachey	Fremont, Ind., R.R. 1
Theron C. Miller	Fremont, Ind., R.R. 3
S. Ora Butler	Pleasant Lake, R.R. 1
M. R. Hanna	Angola, Ind., R.R.
Charles B. Gregory	Fremont, Ind., R.R. 3
John Sanders	Angola, Ind., R.R.
Floyd E. Ferrier	Fremont, Ind., R.R. 1
Arthur Hayward	Fremont, Ind., R.R. 3
R. A. Baker	Fremont, Ind., R.R. 3
Jay B. Huss	Fremont, Ind., R.R. 3
Floyd Smith	Ray, Ind., R.R. 1
George Griffith	Fremont, Ind., R.R.
Charles E. Hall	Fremont, Ind., R.R.
Earl D. Schaeffer	Fremont, Ind.

On January 7, 1938, Morris Hanson offered his resignation as chairman of the Board of Directors and R. A. Baker was selected to fill the vacancy. Miss Wava Oberst was appointed to act as assistant secretary and to assist Mr. Wilbur Mundy, who was then serving as the secretary-treasurer of the corporation. She served in this capacity in an exceedingly efficient manner until June, 1938.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors on May 2, 1938, Mr. Theodore Wood was selected to serve as attorney for the local REMC. He served in that capacity for a number of years and the project profited greatly by his wise counsel. Upon his election to the Presidency of Tri-State College, he resigned the position, and his father, Hon. Alphonso C. Wood, was then secured as legal advisor for the local electric cooperative.

Shortly after his selection as Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr. R. A. Baker visited the Indiana Statewide Rural Electric Office in Indianapolis and received definite instruction as to the method of procedure in the completing of the establishment of a Rural Electric Cooperative, and the steps to be taken in the securing of memberships and the making of the application to the government for the necessary loan.

The Indiana Statewide furnished the necessary engineering force to make the needed surveys and maps showing the number and the frequency of prospective consumers.

R. A. Baker at once started an active campaign for the securing of memberships and easements. Meetings were held in the different townships of the county. At a meeting of the Board of Directors held June 11, 1938, Mr. T. P. Charles was appointed to have charge of the securing of easements and

memberships in the west part of the county. As Mr. Wilbur Mundy, who had been serving as secretary-treasurer of the Cooperative, resigned his position because he was moving to Huntington County for residence, Mr. T. P. Charles was chosen his successor, both as a Director and as Secretary-Treasurer. Mrs. T. P. Charles rendered valuable assistance during the summer of 1938, typing the applications and survey forms necessary for filing with the application to REA.

In July, 1938, the survey of the County was completed, and the necessary memberships, easements, and applications for the government loan were filed with the Statewide organization which forwarded them to the Rural Electrification Administration at Washington, D. C., for approval.

On August 19, 1938, a letter was received from John M. Carmody, Administrator of the REA, stating that an allotment of \$278,000 had been made to the Steuben County REMC for the construction of the necessary distribution lines to serve the farmers of Steuben County with electric power. The contract for the construction of the first distribution lines was let to the Cater Construction Company of Kansas City, Missouri, on October 7, 1938, and the construction work was begun by said Company in January, 1939. The first pole was set on March 3, 1939, a short distance south of Fox Lake. The farmers in the southwest corner of the County were the first to be served by the local cooperative, their lines being energized on May 15, 1939. The entire project was energized on July 16, 1939.

During the summer of 1938 the Board of Directors began their search for a suitable manager for their project. Subsequent events have shown their great good fortune in the selection of Charles L. Puffer of Lake James, to serve as such manager. Mr. Puffer began his services with the Cooperative in September, 1938, and he served in that capacity until his death, October 13, 1954. Mr. Puffer was a graduate of the University of Maine in Engineering and had served for a number of years in charge of construction of distribution and transmission lines and in the building of generating stations for the General Electric Company, the Westinghouse Electric, and the Doherty Company. His vast experience in this field was an important factor in the development and the financial success of the Steuben County Rural Electric Membership Corporation.

Many people had felt it would be a questionable undertaking to venture the formation of a rural cooperative in Steuben County. But, under the experienced and careful guidance of Manager Puffer and the advice and counsel of the Board of Directors who were men of business ability and good judgment, the Steuben County REMC has a good and sound financial record. It has met all financial obligations to the government on loan payments to date to the amount of \$327,641.69; and it has made advanced payments to REA to the amount of \$135,433.48. It also has a total of \$153,552.00 invested in government bonds. It owns its own office building and garage located on a 29 acre tract of real estate one-half mile south of the City of Angola. It also possesses line material and electric supplies and equipment, all of which represents an investment of \$85,000.00.

The increase in membership from year to year, as well as the greater amount of electric power demands resulting from the use of more equipment by consumers, has required the expenditure of substantial amounts for the building of lines and their improvement to carry the heavier line loads.

The local project has borrowed from the government a total of \$813,211.57, and the present indebtedness now stands at a total of \$488,063.52.

At the present time the Steuben County REMC is serving a total of 2300 members, of which 1380 are farm homes, 282 are non-farm homes, 38 commercial projects and churches, and 600 seasonal consumers located on the various lake fronts.

The present members of the Board of Directors of the Cooperative are: Robert Cleckner, President; Ben A. Sams, Vice President; Donald Bailey, Secretary-Treasurer; R. A. Baker, Representative to the Statewide REC; S. Ora Butler; Glen L. Myers; Warren D. Sellers; Bryan Jennings; and Donald Gilbert.

Mr. Ora Butler was elected a director at the very first meeting of the Cooperative in 1935, and he has served continuously as a director since that time. He has been an exceedingly loyal member, and his advice and counsel have meant much to the welfare of the project.

Mr. Glen L. Myers helped to secure easements and memberships in the early history of the project, and has served as president of the Cooperative, and as representative to the Statewide REC.

Mr. R. A. Baker was the really active leader in the completion of the organization and the secur-



ing of the loan. He served as president of the Co-operative for a number of terms, and has served several years as representative to the statewide organization.

Other men who have served as directors from time to time are Wilbur Mundy, Morris Hanson, Martin Hanna, Theron Miller, Carl Peachey, Carl C. McClue, Floyd Ferrier, Floyd Reese, Daniel Oury, Isaac Eyster, and Floyd Smith.

The present employees of the Steuben County Rural Electric Membership Corporation are:

Name	Term of Service
Charles L. Puffer, Manager	1938-1954 (present time)
Harold Kaufman, Line Supt.	1939-1954
James O. Whaley, Lineman	1946-1954
Robert Ruhl, Lineman	1946-1954
Herbert Kiser, Lineman	1949-1954
William C. Bruns, Ground Man	1952-1954
Harry Beers, General Helper	1938-1954
T. P. Charles, Auditor	1939-1954
Janet Rice, Stenographer	1952-1954
Patricia Flanigan, Cashier	1952-1954
Janet Blessing, Billing Clerk	1953-1954
Homer Beck, Custodian	1942-1954

Mr. Carroll Penland served as a lineman for thirteen years (1939-1952).

Mr. Harold Kaufman first helped in the building of the first distribution lines of the REMC, being employed with the Cater Construction Company. He was then employed by the REMC in 1939 and has since served as Line Foreman and as Line Superintendent for several years. T. P. Charles has served as Bookkeeper and Auditor of the local project since June 1939. Mr. Harry Beers helped in the securing of easements as early as 1938, and has since aided in that capacity as well as in several others during his terms of employment with the REMC.

When the people of America forget politics, self-interests, and possessing confidence and respect for others, really work together—then worth while things can be accomplished. Rural Electrification is one of the outstanding accomplishments of all our national history.



## Steuben County Mercantile Development

By J. B. Munn

The three most important human needs have always been food, clothing, and shelter. These needs are responsible for the origin and development of mercantile activities everywhere.

Pioneer settlers in Steuben County found it very inconvenient to travel as far as Fort Wayne, Defiance, Ohio, or Coldwater, Michigan, to get flour, corn meal, woolen material, lumber, and other essential things to take care of their family needs. Hence mercantile development had its origin within this county.

In what is now Millgrove Township, the settlers from Vermont found Thomas Kimball's grist mill, erected in 1836, most convenient. Timothy Kimball gave them the first general store the same year. A second store was opened in what is now Orland, in 1837.

Early settlers in Jamestown Township were quick to see the possibilities in water power from the streams. How did Nevada Mills get its name? A fourteen foot dam was built across a stream there in 1835 and soon a saw mill, woolen mill, grist mill, and planing mill were in operation. Men connected with these activities were: L. Salisbury, E. and A. Mallory, and a Mr. Rinkel. John Knott built the first saw mill and general store near the present village of Jamestown in 1836.

Fremont Township's first store was opened in late 1836 or early in 1837 by a Mr. Parker in a log building with a stock of goods he brought up from Fort Wayne. R. A. Gaines started a second store in 1839. Gaines also built a hotel in Fremont later, known for many years as the "American House."

York Township pioneers were favored by a grist mill started in 1844 by A. Ferrier; in 1844 a saw mill on Fish Creek, by Clark Powers; Justin Barron gave Metz its first store.

In 1834 Wallace and Philo Clark gave the Jackson Township settlers a saw mill which was a busy enterprise for many years.

W. H. Austin and Edmund Wright opened a first store in 1843 in what is now Salem Center in that

township. John Miller erected a sawmill in what is now the Hudson community, a short time later. Hudson's first store was opened by Michael Miller soon after this.

In Steuben Township, two villages pre-date Pleasant Lake. One soon became extinct; the other is Steubenville. The latter was a trading center of importance for many years. Pleasant Lake was platted in 1870. The Chadwick Store (now the Ransburg Department Store) was opened in 1876. Soon Pleasant Lake was a thriving village.

S. P. Gambia opened Hamilton's first store in 1837. He also built an Ashery there. Later, on the excellent water power site, he constructed a grist mill; still a little later, a saw mill. Mr. Gambia lived at Hamilton until 1854.

Between 1840 and 1850 Richland Center had its first school, church, store, and saw mill.

While the above named mercantile establishments served their communities well for many other human needs their citizens looked to the county seat—Angola.

#### **Mercantile Development in Angola**

Cornelius Gilmore built the first house in Angola in 1836. The first hotel is credited to Darius Orton, erected at corner of Maumee and Elizabeth streets. Thomas Gale had the first store in Angola and it was located on the East side of the public square. Between 1836 and 1870 the development was a bit slow. In 1870 the "Fort Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw Railroad" was completed through Steuben County. The railroad had a most stimulating effect on business for Angola, Fremont, and Pleasant Lake. In the short space of fifteen years, business firms increased in number rapidly and brick business blocks began to replace the old log and wooden structures. Some of these larger brick buildings were constructed at costs ranging from \$8,000 to \$14,000 each.

In 1885 Angola had more than forty types of mercantile endeavor. There were six firms retailing dry goods, six other firms dealing in groceries, three firms each were selling hardware, drugs, or making and selling harness, wagons, and carriages; there were two each of hotels, restaurants, meat markets, jewelry stores, brick and tile industries, agricultural implement stores, furniture stores, shoe stores, coopers, milliners, and dressmakers; at least one creamery, print shop, photographer, retailer of pumps, sewing machines, grist mill, barber shop, carpenter, men's clothing, plumbing,

planing mill, tailor, tin shop, woolen factory, and five saloons.

Some of the proprietors of the above were:—G. N. Bodley, grocery and bakery; F. E. Burt, Jewelry and books; O. Carver, drugs; Byron Work, drugs; W. Reeves, jewelry; Eberly and Longbaugh, dry goods; Ewers Brothers, brick; Ferrier, Rakestraw and Co., printers; L. A. Hendry, dry goods; Israel Kemery, hotel; J. C. McCrory, furniture; J. McKillen, barber; Menzenberger, grocery and restaurant; G. W. Miller, grist mill; John Moss, agricultural implements; S. A. Moss and Sons, dry goods; J. Stiefel and Son, dry goods; W. Parrish, foundry; Alfred Potter, livery; John Richardson, blacksmith; Uhl and Hathaway, clothing; Weicht and Son, planing mill; L. G. Weiss, tailor; William Wells, harness; I. Williamson, hardware; W. M. Wolford, tin shop; and James Zipfel, boots and shoes.

#### **From 1886 to 1912**

During these years many businesses changed ownership and new firms were established. Henry E. Kratz purchased the drug stock of Byron Work in 1885. J. Frank Grass became the owner of the G. N. Bodley bakery. In 1902 Mr. Grass sold this bakery to Clinton E. Beatty. Mr. Beatty and his son Glen S. Beatty operated this business for a period of fifty years. A constant reminder to Steuben County people of this long period of business activity within one family name is the Beatty Block on the north east side of the square, acquired by C. E. Beatty in 1921. The ground floor now provides space for four important Angola stores, the second and third floors provide several offices for professional and business people as well as modern living apartments. During this period the Stiefel Department Store under the management of L. C. Stiefel took on larger proportions, and moved into ample quarters provided in the newly constructed IOOF Building in 1900. This store continued under the firm name of J. Stiefel's & Son until the stock was purchased by the J. C. Penney Company in 1929. Another very important department store of that time was that of the Patterson Company located on the southeast corner of the square where you now find the First National Bank and W. R. Thomas Store. W. C. and his brother Fred Patterson, conducted this business for many years. In the L. A. Hendry building, corner of West Maumee and Elizabeth Streets, was another general store, owned and operated by the



Leiningers. This store was purchased by H. H. Higbie in 1910.

For many years W. M. Watson and Henry Wirick operated restaurants in Angola. Mr. Watson and his wife were located on West Maumee where the Tri State Improvement Company now has offices. Regular meals were served in their dining rooms; tickets good for twenty-one meals could be purchased for a time at as low as \$2.00. Above the dining room and also over the adjoining room to the west, the Watsons had rooms which they rented by night or week. Later they erected the building at the corner of West Maumee and West Street and continued their excellent service to the public in the new location. Henry Wirick and wife had their restaurant in the northeast corner of the square where a part of the present A. & P. Food Store is located. Wiricks and Watsons also had the low price meal tickets, and many a college student ate at Wiricks and Watsons and made the ticket last longer than seven days. Lee and Paul Brooks had a short order restaurant in the 100 West Maumee block and we remember meeting Jesse Thomas for the first time when he was an employee of this eating place.

The hardware stores known as Callendar Hardware and Jackson Hardwares belong to this era. Rollo Callendar came from Hicksville, Ohio, and later his brother Milo Callendar was associated with him in the Callendar Building now occupied by the Gamble Store. Others who have conducted a hardware business in this same building since the Callendars are the Thobes and later the Bennetts.

Frank E. Jackson had many financial interests in Steuben County. One of these was the hardware store on the northeast corner where Elizabeth Street intersects Maumee. Frank, his wife, and son, Archie Jackson, served the public well in this business for more than fifty years. "Have you tried Jacksons for that?" was a common question when hard to find articles were needed.

J. Frank Grass had a grocery store two doors east of the Jackson Hardware from 1902 to 1911. His store records reveal that rental for business firms at that time was from \$12 to \$15 a month; best clerks were paid \$12.00 a week, and stores were open six evenings a week. Clerks in this store during part of that time were Charles Wells and Judson Ritter, who later operated grocery stores of their own on West Maumee. Mr. Grass

sold the grocery to Amos Junod who, after operating it until sometime in 1919, sold out to Fred Richardson and son Burton.

Other business enterprises of that period were: A. Frysinger, H. Jackson, (both had drug stores), Alvah Elston, shoe store; Dennis Triplett, clothing store—he sold to W. Jarrard in 1920, Charles Burkhart and Guy Ritter, modern steam laundry. Fred Sheldon and M. C. Pollock both had grain, feed, and seed stores. J. W. Goodwin and John Butz dealt in hardwood lumber. Joe Brokaw and Ross Miller were the two merchant tailors. Henry Weicht and Lawrence Klink each were funeral directors. Frank Gibson had a bakery. J. M. Fisher, J. Adams and L. Bender, W. Burkett, and Charles Slade had barbershops. Willis Love had a cigar factory, Archie Wells, a tobacco store. Kiefer Meyers and Frank Zabst were implement dealers. Thomas Owens and Jonas Somerlott dealt in poultry and produce. Lazenby and Hetzler sold monuments. Linder, Angola Brick and Tile, and a Mr. Moughler supplied the coal. George Conklin had a music store which was later sold to the Hosacks. H. Menzenberger, Schinbeckler, and Haffner had variety stores. Later Ross Elson purchased the Menzenberger store and operated for a time. The newsstand was property of F. Dole and Sons, then a Mr. Stoner, and later Guy Kemmerling. This Mr. Stoner owned the drug store which the Kolb Brothers purchased in 1913. Dealers in furniture were E. A. Goodwin, C. C. Duckwall, Ernest Kemery, and a little later, Orlo Roberts, then Carver and Brown.

Mast Brothers, William Braun, and a Mr. Shrieder kept the meat markets. Plumbing business was cared for by the G. N. Bodley Company for many years. Working with this firm were William Maxfield, Charles Steinbarger, and Bert McNabb. These men later engaged in the business for themselves. Orville and Burdette Goodale were the abstractors, in which business Orville Stevens is now engaged. Space will not permit the naming of all the real estate and insurance firms of those earlier and more recent years, but we will mention Ed. Powers, Curtis Heckenlively, Irve Metzgar, Harvey Morley, Ivan Clem, U. L. Wambaugh, and Frank Beil. In photography we have the names of Lacey, T. A. Freeman, and Virgil Cline.

#### **Fremont Merchants Since 1910**

For many years the E. C. Duguid and Company Department Store of Fremont was a shopping

center for a large area. Associated with E. C. Duguid in this enterprise were Harry and Arch McCleery, Wallace and Elzy Graham. A Co-Op Store was managed first by D. Barry, and later by B. B. Baker. C. E. Gier and Frank Harding had Hardwares. Later Gier sold to the McNaughtons and operated a furniture store and undertaking business. Joy Waters, Harper Miller, and John Munday had groceries and meat markets. The Halls had the grain elevator, feed mill, and harness shop. Wade Dalley managed the Fremont Lumber and Coal Company, a company in which S. Duguid served as president for many years. The Goulds had a tinshop; drugstores were owned and operated by L. D. Caswell, J. C. Bailey and son Charles, and a Mr. Mertz. Frank Follett had a jewelry store and newsstand and rented space in his building for the post office. The Caswells and Alma Clark had the variety store. The Crandalls, father and sons, had a feed store. James Ewing made cement products. Harry Taylor had the Ford Agency and also sold farming implements. Al and Herman Straw had a creamery and manufactured ice cream. Elmer Sidel and sons, Leo and Wayne, operated a fine restaurant and bakery. Will Heller promoted Co-Op activities similar to the Farm Bureau of today. Ralph Baker, looked after many of the farmer's needs and sales of products. Charles Sheets and Frank Dunnavan had barber shops. Del Tillotson and E. B. McNaughton headed the banking interests of Fremont. Clyde Duguid and Ralph McElhenie owned and operated the draying business for many years. Bert Isenhower had the livery barn and a taxi business. Frank Isenhower had the first service station. Pyrl Duncan managed the interests of Standard Oil. B. Gibbons sold monuments. H. H. Pinchon and J. W. Goodwin had Fremont's two sawmills.

### Present Day Merchants in Fremont

Kind of Business	Proprietor	Date Acquired
Albright's Garage	Russell Albright	1944
Barry Greenhouse	Elmore Barry	1932
Beams Furniture Store	H. L. Beams	1932
Beauty Box	Lorraine Merriman	1949
Berry's Service	Donald Berry	1949
Boyd's Barber Shop	Liston Boyd	1944
Bud's Place	Robert Smith	1948
Corner Pocket	Lawrence Dickason	1949

Dairy Bar	Lovell Moeller	1953
Dove's Bakery	Paul and Gladys Dove	1950
East End Grocery	Richard Binkley	1949
Eckman Department Store	Herbert Eckman	1947
Estroy's Grill	Esther Wilson	
Farm Bureau Elevator	Charles Antrup	1946
Fremont Elevator and Supply	E. Bingaman and O. Fisher	1937
Fremont Hardware	E. B. McNaughton	1920
Fremont Hatchery and Feed	Floyd Reese	1952
Fremont I.G.A. Store (Grocery)	Perry Gay	1939
Fremont Implement Store	E. B. and F. B. McNaughton	1946
Fremont Locker Plant	Sammy Kaiser	1949
Fremont Lumber Co.	Roy Bailey	1946
Fremont Package Store	R. J. Kundard	1937
Fremont Welding Shop	Wilmer Frahm	1943
Gamble Store	Dale Pifer	1933
Gary's Standard Service	Rollo Gary	1940
General Contractor	George B. Foulk	1947
Hadley's 5c and 10c Store	Ralph Hadley	1937
Higbee's Welding Shop	Elmer Higbee	1940
Hufnagle's Garage	Rollo Hufnagle	1940
Keyes Barber Shop	William Keyes	1937
Kinsey's Chevrolet Garage	Lee Kinsey	1931
Knauss Electrical Service	Owen Knauss	1946
Kroger Store	Wade Foster	1929
Lauer's Log Garage	Richard Lauer	1952
Lippincott's Drug Store	Ross Lippincott	1943
Monn's Automatic Seal Vaults	William Monn	1932
Norton's Radio and Television Service	Leslie Norton	1938
Parson's Card Room	Mildred Parsons	1952
Saw Mill	Ernest Pence	1946
Shoe Shop	Boyd Hufnagle	1944
Sierer's Body Shop	John Sierer	1947
Snyder's Home Supply	George Snyder	1946
Star Theater	Juanita C. Harris	1953
Sunset Grill	John and Lucille Gorrell	1948
Vaughn's Dry Cleaners	Robert Vaughn	1946
Vera's Beauty Shop	Vera Albright	1927



White's Poultry	C. A. White & Son	1931
School Supplies	Lois Greenamyre	1952
Watch Repair	J. Wesley Knox	1952

### Pleasant Lake Merchants—Present and Past

Ransburg's Department Store—Founded in 1876 by Chadwick and Ransburg. Now owned and operated by the Ransburg Brothers, sons of one of the founders.

Pleasant Lake Lumber Yard. Now owned and operated by N. Roth. Among previous owners and operators were: Alvin Goodwin, Fred Lott, and V. Ormsby Lyons.

Fuller's Chevrolet Sales owned and operated by Gerald Fuller. Previous owners have been McHenry, Hoagland, Helms, Hevel, and Carl Casebeer.

Groceries in Pleasant Lake: Howards Grocery—Fred and Esther Howard. One time owned by David Gilbert. August Food Shop—D. L. August. Previous owner was Frank Gibson. Until 1954 Mr. and Mrs. LaFayette Imhoff had operated a general store in Pleasant Lake for many years.

Hardware—Owners now are Herbert J. and Kathryn Moore. In earlier years it was known as the Matson Hardware and operated by John Matson and sons. More recently it was the property of V. O. and Mae Lyons.

Drug Store—Now operated by Donald T. Johnson. Previous owners: Chester Meisner, Russell Stetler, and Byron Pence.

Farm Bureau Co-operative Association had its origin in 1914. T. I. Ferris and the Steuben Grain Company operated this business for many years.

Auto and Truck Stop: Triangle Auto Service—Leslie Reed and Sons. Sinclair Service, and D. Gorrell and Son Sporting Goods. Shell Service and Cabin Camp—John L. Myers, previously owned by Frank Ginnivan. Halfway Truck Stop—started in 1952. Now operated by Paul Weiss. Also operates the Halfway Truck Stop Restaurant.

Pleasant Lake Greenhouse was purchased in 1952 by Harry Smith. Previously owned and operated by Max Ferris.

Saw Mill—Now owned by Orville Stroh. Other saw mills in earlier days were owned and operated by J. W. and Alvin Goodwin.

Lake Concrete Company—Acquired in 1951 by Gail Anstett. Earlier owners were Burt and Ray Enfield.

Interior Decorators—C. Wolf and Son in business since 1926.

Map Publisher—Clifton Chadwick since 1935.

Pleasant Lake Beauty Shop—Owned and operated since 1937 by Marie Deetz.

Barber Shop—Robert Olinger, purchased from Dan Pixley in 1949.

Motel: Lake View Court—Started in 1947 by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Rowe.

Realtor and Trading Post—Joe S. Chaudoin (deceased-1954) started business in 1931. Had main office in Pleasant Lake for several years just prior to his death.

### Ray, Indiana, and Clear Lake Township Merchants

Some of the early merchants of this area were Robert and Theodore McNaughton—Ray Elevator. Charles French—Groceries and Meats. Ol Fink—Carriage factory and blacksmith shop. F. E. Abrams—Drug Store. E. B. McNaughton—Hardware. F. T. Hackett—Undertaker. Frank Mott—Livery Barn. Ben Isenhower—Hardware. L. E. McNaughton—Lumber Yard. Art Deemer—Grocery. Charles Lockwood and Julius Tompkins—Dray Service.

### Present Day Businesses in Ray (Indiana Side) and Clear Lake

Tri State Co-operative Association—Ray  
Ray Sheet Metal Shop—Virgil Freeburn, owner.  
U. S. Post Office—Mark D. Kaufman, Postmaster.

### Clear Lake

	Owner
Lakeside Hotel - - -	Christine Moreland
Mirador Hotel - - -	Mrs. Robert Hahn
Hazenhurst Hotel - - -	Bob Reed
Reike Sail and Boat Company -	Dayton Reike
North Shore Grocery - -	Noel Ewert
South Shore Grocery - -	Ed. Mencer
Four Corners Grocery - -	R. E. Hopkins
Crystal Roller Rink - -	John Kuntz
Petras Bait and Bath House -	Nick Petras
Bud Beck Automatic Laundry -	Virgil Slain
Clear Lake Beauty Shop -	Delores Hampshire
The Kurly-Q-Beauty Shop -	Rolene Kaufman
Wilson's Grocery and Grill -	Fred Wilson
Harrington Boat Company -	Vacel Harrington
IV'S Resort-Cabin-Rentals -	Vacel Harrington
Clear Lake Yacht Club -	(A Corporation)
Terrace Gardens Dance Hall and Restaurant - - -	C. E. Geller

### **York—Richland—Scott Township Merchants Merchants of Metz**

Henry Latcher Store—½ mile south of Metz, started in 1841.

Justin Barron—Dry Goods as early as 1851 in Metz.

Hotels—Dr. E. Pattee in 1851; Edward Sargeant in 1854.

Early barbers were William Hesley and George Sutton.

Hardware Owners—first, Brady Swift; later, H. Allman, Claire Wisner, Dwight Haughey.

Shoe Repair Shop and Veterinarian—Martin Burch.

Later Metz merchants have been: F. Goodale—Drug Store which was purchased and operated by Roy Robinett for many years; Ed. Hand and Sons—Meat Market; J. C. Gilbert—Furniture Store. G. R. Wall is the present Hardware Store owner. Shirley Fee (now deceased) operated a grist and feed mill for many years in Metz. Smith Williams—Barber, was also located in Metz.

### **Alvarado or Richland Center**

Some of the men who owned and operated a general store at Alvarado were: Jim Kannels, Charles Kepler, Alf. Bender, Calvin Beard, Fred Shaw, and Lyle Leas. Albert Stiefel had a blacksmith shop there which later was operated by Clark Alwood.

### **Berlien, Ellis, Page, York Center**

The store building at Berlien was built by H. E. Bucklen who constructed the "Valley Line Railroad." Some of the "store keepers" were Arnold Brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Iden, and Ralph Adams.

Some of the Ellis store keepers were: Mrs. Orin Kidney and Frank Tiffany.

About 50 years ago Burt Dunovan operated the store at Page. Others who have kept store there in more recent years are: Mrs. Charles Nedele, and Ralph Zimmerman.

George Osfall operated a store at York Center about 90 years ago.

### **Orland and Millgrove Township**

Timothy Kimball built the first grist mill north of Orland in 1838. A general store had been started one year earlier in Orland. This store was owned by a Dr. James McConnell and G. D. Parmenter. First blacksmith shop was established by Andrew Lundstrum. S. U. Clark constructed Orland's first

hotel. It soon burned and Clark built a second hotel the same year. Nelson Newton and Chester Stocker used tamarack timber for the making of the first pumps. S. U. Clark was the first tailor in Orland. Clark also owned a carriage shop and made vehicles for the surrounding area.

In 1885 the following were merchandising in Orland: J. G. Parker—general store; Fox and VanEtta—drug store; D. H. Roberts—dry goods; T. Wilder and Company—hardware; Canse Brothers—grocery and market; O. Underhill—groceries, shoes, and billiards; Fred Schneider—grocery; Miles Kimble—hardware; Amos Helms—shoe shop; D. Schneider—shoe shop; Frank Burnham—Hotel; Henry Carver—Boarding House; J. W. Helm—Wagon and Carriage Shop; James Light—Blacksmith Shop; Joseph Reeves—Blacksmith Shop; W. W. Thompson—Furniture Store; John Roberts—Flour and Meat Market.

The Citizens State Bank served the Orland community from 1906 to 1934.

### **Today's Mercantile List in Orland**

Dry Goods—Opdyke; Hardware—Lamont Wilson; Grocery—R. Keyes and Son; Boyer Lumber Company; Farm Bureau—G. Jacob, Manager; Miller's Tavern; Walt's Barber Shop; Drug Store—Clara Keyes; Service Stations—Phillips 66, Marathon, and Cities Service; Restaurants—Upton and Silver Diner; Welding—Carl Cary; Fawn River Greenhouse—Buchanan; Cupie's Beauty Shop—Mrs. Statler; Used Cars—Guy Penix; Body Shop—Booher; Lewis Implement Company; Garage—Elmo Wells; Feed Mill—L. Penix; Saw Mill—C. Cleveland; Barber Shop—Straley; Cement Blocks—Girtons; Bait and Fur Shop—Mike Van Wagner (now deceased); Superette Market (wholesale and retail of meats) Wendell Van Wagner; Merriman Construction Company; and Expressways, Inc.

### **Salem Township**

In other chapters you will find much of the history of this township and much of it has a direct bearing on the mercantile development of this area. Because of this we are listing only the present day businesses of Salem Center, Hudson, and the part of Ashley which is in Steuben County.

### **Salem Center**

Russell Jackson—Garage and Grocery—Owner since July, 1945.



Dan Parker—Garage—Owner since June, 1934. An earlier owner was Logan Parker.

### Hudson

The writer was principal of the then three year high school in Hudson in 1912-1913. At that time there were two general stores, Kirkland's and Clark's. H. Doty had a hardware, a Mr. Fredericks, a tin shop, Dr. Hamilton operated a drug store, J. S. Pattee was the jeweler and photographer, Frank Strock had the elevator, Dick Haskins and Ancil Buss had barber shops, McClish operated the motion picture theatre, Drs. Kimmel and Hamilton had medical practices. Dr. Cary Snowberger was Hudson's dentist for nearly 40 years. A restaurant, bank, and post office, were other important factors in Hudson then, and still are with the exception of the Bank.

### Present Day Merchants in Hudson

Standard Station—now operated by Byron Fretz. Cars are serviced and it is also a good point for car repair and general welding. Previous operators of the Standard Service Station were Paul Mansberger, Ranford Brewer, and La Mar Kresley.

Garages in Hudson are operated by Noll Brothers since 1946, and Robert L. McKee.

The barber shop belongs to Charles Parker.

James Greenwalt, Ford Libey, and Arden Tubbs operate the three groceries.

Reid Ransburg has operated the hardware since 1946.

Art Louck has a plumbing shop; Charles Rowe has operated a wreath shop since 1943.

Frank Strock and Son have an elevator and storage where they buy and sell to a wide area of patrons.

Clark and Pfingstag are also well known names as agricultural producers and marketers of high quality farm products.

### Ashley in Steuben County

Ashley-Hudson Times-Weekly Newspaper had its origin in 1892. Until recently it was owned and operated by a Mr. Deetz. Present owner is a Mr. Seaton.

Barber Shop—S. Healy; Custom Dry Cleaners—owned and managed by J. Constanza.

A Bait Factory is located in what was once Ashley's hotel.

The Restaurant—once called the G. and M. Grill—has been owned and managed by Gillespie

and Montgomery and later by Worthy Zonker. Today it is owned and managed by Charles and Amy Shumaker.

Othal Boyd is the proprietor of the Town Tavern which has both a bar and separate lunch room.

Lepley's Garage is the property of Ray Lepley, Chevrolet dealer, who does auto and truck repair work, and has a wrecker service.

Standard Station—Owned and operated by Al-dis Stuck.

Vault Company—Owned by Everett Penick. His product is widely known and used through a large surrounding area.

Ashley on the Steuben County side has Dr. Geyer as its physician—former doctors have been VanNest and Thill.

### Otsego Township and Hamilton

This area has a most interesting history as related in another part of this volume. The old Bellefontaine Road, once a winding Indian trail, led people to Hamilton lake in the early days. We have, earlier in this account, mentioned several merchants of Hamilton.

Just prior to, during, and after, the construction of the Chicago to Detroit division of the Wabash Railroad, which passes through Hamilton, the following were some of the merchants who served this community: Henry Osfall, who had moved into Hamilton, had a thriving store and entered into a contract to supply the railroad construction groups with supplies of meat and other groceries; Truman Beecher had a tinshop; Andrew Stout served as postmaster, cobbler, and veterinarian; Schofield and Meyer had a drug store; general stores were owned and operated by a Mr. Zirkle, J. Wesley Thomas, and Francis Klinkle. G. R. Farnum had a hardware and Jor Sewell, a furniture store and undertaking business. John Zeigler made harness; Farley and Willer were blacksmiths.

The following were business men of Hamilton after 1900: W. Chard had a lumber yard; T. Robinett sold agricultural implements; C. B. Dirrim was postmaster and jeweler; E. Hagerty and son were the bankers. Later Oscar Taylor and sons, J. L. Taylor and B. B. Taylor, took over this banking business now known as the Hamilton Bank, and still operated by the Taylor family. Burton Kissinger had an excellent drugstore; Cook and Lingle had the hardware; C. O. Robinett was a

grocer; O. P. Brown was the barber; Orville Foutz the blacksmith.

Today's merchants in Hamilton are: Fred and Max Booth—general store, since 1944; Orris Eddy—hardware, since 1935; T. A. Gyllsdorf—druggist, since 1946; Robert Hanes—electric shop, since 1948; Mervin Schall—grocery, since 1940; Waldo Stout—barber, since 1930; Mrs. Russel Taylor—Hamilton Bank, operated by the Taylor family since 1905; Wolff Brothers—general merchandise, since 1903; Taverns by Nichols and Everitt since 1944; Ed. Hartlieb since 1946; and Ervin Hollinger since 1950.

Other well known business places in and near Hamilton are the Hamilton House, The Cold Springs Hotel and Cold Springs Resort, formerly operated by the Homer Watkins family, Ross Watkins and wife, and now by Lyle Watkins. The Paradise Hotel on Treasure Island was once known only as the Island Hotel and operated by a Mr. and Mrs. Haines for many years.

The Hamilton Lumber Company has been managed by Ora Kaiser for many years.

#### **Merchants Today in the Angola Metropolitan Area**

Beginning on Angola's Public Square, north side at the Williamson Hardware Corner, we have the Williamson Company founded many years ago by Isaac Williamson. Next in line were his two sons, Edward Williamson, Sr., and Fred Williamson. Edward, Sr., purchased his brother's interest and operated the Hardware until his health failed. Then his son, James Williamson, took over the management of this Company. James' brother, Edward, Jr., was associated with him in the hardware business for several years, but sold his interest to James and is now promoting a home building industry for Angola.

Next business place one door west is the Strand Theater. The building is owned by Mrs. Gladys Brokaw, widow of Ginger Brokaw, who leases the building as a motion picture show project.

Next in order is Jarrard's Toggery. This business place was purchased from Dennis Triplett who operated a men's Clothing Store in Angola for many years prior to 1920. Will Jarrard became the owner in 1920, and following his death his son Wendell Jarrard has been the manager. Dr. Sim Aldrich and his son, Dr. Wendell Aldrich, have dental offices on the second floor above the Toggery.

Louis DeRosa owns the adjoining building which is also next to the Brokaw Theater Corner. Judson Morris has a lease on this building and has operated a restaurant there since 1946. Prior to this time this restaurant had been owned and operated by the Zuber brothers, William, Robert, and James. This building has an interesting past history as a one time cigar store, operated by Archie Wells, and later by Frank Wert. There was once a barber shop located in the rooms above. It was then known as the McKillen building. The McKillens and others since have conducted a restaurant business here prior to the Zubers.

The Brokaw is Angola's largest Theater, built by Joe Brokaw in 1931, and is now owned and operated by the Brokaw Corporation which consists of Nora Brokaw and her four sons, Austin, John, Robert, and Richard.

From the Brokaw Theater south to the Angola State Bank Corner and west for one block, the buildings are, in the main, the property of Dr. Lynn Elston and his mother, Mrs. W. W. Elston. W. W. Elston was at one time cashier of that bank on the corner. These business rooms owned by the Elstons, beginning next to the Brokaw Theater to the south, are occupied by Mote's Barber Shop owned by Conway Mote, who has been an Angola barber for many years, and Munn's Book Store which was started in Angola in 1939 and moved to this location in 1943. The book store is owned and operated by J. B. Munn. This building was once occupied as a ladies' hat shop, a restaurant, Men's Wear Store, and a Barber shop. Next room south is occupied by Ted's Men's Wear, owned by John F. (Ted) Williamson. Ted entered this business in 1935. For many years the corner building has housed an Angola Bank. On the second floor above are law offices and the Rainbow Beauty Parlor and Gift Shop. Judge Harris Hubbard had the law offices at the present time occupied by Attorney Col. Gaylord Gilbert. Hubbard was associated with Judge D. R. Best in the same offices. Older Angola residents will remember the legal firm of Best and Yotter who practiced from these offices many, many years. Lucille Whitman owns and operates the Rainbow Beauty and Gift Shop.

Turning the bank corner, in the next building you will find Cub's Sweet Shop, owned by Cub Ulmer. Prior to his ownership Louis DeRosa, Howard Fletter, and Christy George had his candy store, fountain, and restaurant. Prior to them the



Brooks Brothers and a Mr. Goodrich had a restaurant business here.

Next is the Eat Restaurant. The building is the property of the Carver heirs. For many years Jesse Thomas, now retired, operated this restaurant. Mr. and Mrs. George Golna now operate this eating place.

Signs next door read "Tuttle's Jewelry" and "Watkins and Croxton Insurance" on the first floor, and upstairs is a public accountant, J. H. Crouch. Before Mr. Tuttle purchased the jewelry store, Harry Holderness and others before him had used this location for a jewelry store; one of them being a Mr. Reeves.

Next building west houses "Herb and Don's" Cocktail Lounge. For many years prior to the present occupancy this building was known as "The Hub" where pool, billiards, and cards, were the pastime of patrons, and tobacco sales were promoted. Ginger Brokaw owned this building, and his brother Joe once had a tailor shop on the second floor.

The next two buildings are also owned by Mrs. W. W. Elston. The one next to Don and Herb's housed groceries, owned and operated by Frank Grass, Amos Junod, Fred and Burton Richardson, and Ralph Steffan for more than 50 years. Burton Richardson and Ralph Steffan also had a newsstand in connection with the grocery. At the present time this building quarters the "Coney Island" shop of Mr. Christy.

Ray Hosack has an appliance store in the remaining two buildings of this block. He sells refrigerators, deep freezers, ranges, television and radio sets, and various other necessities. Booth Real Estate has office space in one of these buildings. Franklin Security Company under the management of Dick Mondhank has offices on the second floor of the east building. The west building, prior to the Hosack occupancy, was owned by Frank Jackson and used for a hardware. He sold the building to Al Williams who operated a grocery there for a time and then sold the building to Ray Hosack.

Crossing Elizabeth street we come to the I.O.O.F. Building erected in 1900. The L. C. Stiefel Department Store and the J. C. Penney Company have used the first floor of this building since its erection; Stiefel until 1929, and the J. C. Penney Company since that date, under the able management of Dudley Gentry (now deceased), fol-

lowed by E. J. Ries, and then E. H. Miller. At one time Mr. Stiefel had a basement grocery in this building. This basement once contained the Angola Herald press and office. Today the building also houses the John Stafford Tri-State Salvage Store.

Ray Alwood owns the building just west of the I. O. O. F. He purchased this building from the Dr. W. F. Waller estate. Dr. Waller owned this building many years and had his medical office on the second floor in rooms which Dr. R. N. Snook, optometrist, now uses. The Jacobs Insurance Service now uses space on the street floor—Lloyd Jacobs and sons Wendell and Jerry. This same floor was once used by Conklin, and later Hosacks, as a music store. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sunday, Sr., operated a restaurant and then a cafeteria in this room when Dr. Waller owned the building. Harvey Morley had offices there 25 years, including The Angola Herald office, a general insurance office, The Steuben County Building and Loan Association, converted into the First Federal Savings and Loan Association, for which he was granted the first such charter in Indiana.

Next door west is the Ritter and Ferry Dress Shop. Prior to their occupancy others had dress shops or millinery stores there.

Where the Western Auto store is today, Herb Menzenberger and Ross Elson had variety stores in that order. When the Gamble Corporation first came to Angola it occupied this building which was owned by Herb Menzenberger until his recent death.

Where the Selman Heating and Plumbing establishment is now located, the Schrader Store was operated for a short time. The McKillen Brothers sold this store building to Ed. Selman.

Jesse Thomas owns the next building now occupied by the Tri State Improvement Company—Gillis Pilliod has the insurance, and Jack Johnson and Knight Whitman the real estate part. The Catherine Shop occupies the west half of the building where ladies' wearing apparel is sold. This building was once used by Mr. and Mrs. William Watson for their restaurant business; later Charles Beatty and Jesse Thomas had a restaurant in the west half. The Haffner Variety Store occupied this same room for a time until they moved to the public square.

Mast Brothers owned the next building just east from the Methodist Church. E. A. Goodwin, C. C. Duckwall, Orlo Roberts, and Irvin King have

had this building as a furniture store in that order of succession. At the present time the Seagley Brothers Hardware is located in this building, under the management of Gerald Seagley.

We now cross North West Street and come to the Phillips 66 Service Tower owned and leased by the Sheets Oil Company. This same company operates many other service stations in this county and supplies fuel oil for many of the businesses and homes using oil heaters.

Going farther west on this street we come to the Mobiloil Service Station, the Marathon Service Station, and the West End Grocery, all on the north side of the street.

Located just east of the railroad crossing on West Maumee Street, is the elevator which was owned and operated for many years by Campbell and Company with Sam Morrison as local manager. Later, Mr. Morrison owned this elevator. Today this elevator is owned and operated by the Steuben County Farm Bureau.

Crossing the railroad we come to the Rendezvous, now a local tavern. For many years this location was the site of a store which enjoyed a very good patronage from excursionists who traveled the old N. Y. C. R. R. branch lines to Angola to visit our lakes. North just one block is the Farm Bureau Plant managed by George Anstett, and continuing west on Broad St. is the plant of the Northern Indiana Public Service, and further on, the Cement Block Plant. Coming back to West Maumee and going on from the Rendezvous we come to the West End Grocery, which has operated for many years. Some of the grocers who have served the public from this point are: John Waller, Jay Dole, Carl Evans, Loraine Erbe, Robert Krutsch, and at the present time the store is under the management of Phil Hull.

Just west of the city limits is Flegal's Ready Mix concrete plant, which is a new business venture from this location. Near Booth Lake is the Dan Munson and Foulk's Auto Body Repair Shop. Prior to their occupancy Charles Green had a general repair shop at this point.

The new venture to the west of Booth Lake was Latson's Drive In, where good food and frozen custard was served. Later this was operated by Bob Lowther. Last season, Buck Lake Management took over this business and added much entertaining equipment and renamed it the "Hamburger Circus."

Crossing to the south side of U.S. 20 at this point and returning toward the city limits we first find the Cities Service Bulk Plant, managed by Mr. and Mrs. Andy Wicuff. From this point gas and oils go out to many of their service stations and customers in the county. The Wicuffs own a fleet of trucks which use adjoining space for parking over the week ends.

Just west of this bulk plant is first, the Post House, and next Dr. Vern Hornbacker's office and animal hospital. The Post House is maintained as a stopping point for food by the Greyhound Bus Lines, although its patronage is also from the general public. Mrs. P. Saul is the present manager. One of the previous managers was Mrs. Carl Sunday, Sr.

As we draw near the city limits going east we find "Whitey's Truck Stop" now operated by J. Gecowets. Transport trucks are serviced here. For many years Marion Guilford had a Standard Oil Station and garage at this point. He sold to Al Lonsbury, who enlarged the garage and made it a very important business.

Coming on into the city we pass by the Elmhurst Hospital and soon see a new Texaco Station where once a small Sunoco station operated. This Service Station was erected on land belonging to our present Hendry Hotel manager, Louis Chircotti.

From this Texaco Station we see Clyde's Drive In, built on ground leased from the N. Y. C. R. R. by Ford Ellis a few years ago. This eating place is operated by Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Wirick.

On the east side of the railroad tracks is located the Daniel Shank Lumber Company with the well known slogan "Everything to Build With." Jo Bakstad has managed this business for many years, since the demise of Daniel Shank.

In quick succession we come to the new Sunoco Station, a Sinclair Station now managed by Andy Chalmers, Jr., Shupp's Diner, Ed. Sellgren's Buick Agency, and Bill Goodwin's Standard Service. The building which houses the Buick Agency, and now owned by Ed Sellgren, was built by Orlo Roberts; he later traded it to W. K. Batchelet who in turn disposed of it to Sellgren. It was used as the Buick Agency headquarters by several dealers. Later the Maxtons used it for their Chevrolet garage and sales room. A bottled gas store operated by Ralph Zimmerman occupied the west room of this building for a time.



East of Bill Goodwin's Standard Station, on ground that was once the site of the "Chard's Livery," W. A. Helme built what we call the Ford Garage. Associated with him in the business was Ray Alwood. These two men have sold more Ford cars, tractors, and agricultural implements, than one could count in a long space of time. The building now belongs to the Helme heirs and is leased to Roscoe Erbe, Frank Carlson, and associates, as the headquarters for their Thermo-Flex industry.

Next east is Cline's Studio, built in 1903 by Virgil Cline. He and his son, Dean Cline, who took over management of the studio in 1944, have been Angola's main photographers for more than half a century.

Yoder's Shoe Repair is a well known business in Angola and R. O. Yoder has personally operated it for many years.

Van's Top Hat No. 2 is the next place. This site has been used for the dispensing of food by Kundard, Doc. Boyce, and others. Joe Chaudoin rebuilt and refurnished this place, making it most attractive. The present managers are Mr. and Mrs. Emil Ferro.

The Dixie Restaurant has had several managers. The building was erected and the business managed by Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Watson for many years. Others who were successful operators of this restaurant were: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beatty, then Mr. and Mrs. Russell Millikan. The name "Dixie" originated after the above's management, when a party from South Bend took over and conducted it, similar to that chain of restaurants in other places. It is now owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Feaser, who have had extensive experience in many leading hotels, such as the Pick system, the Oliver, The Penn Harris, the Secor, and others.

As we go east in the next block we encounter McBride Dry Cleaners, father and son—Clyde and John. This building is occupied by McBrides and Van's Sport Shop, John VanAman, owner. An undertaker once had quarters on the first floor. Jud Ritter, Tuttles, and Sauls had a grocery in the east half. The second floor was "the armory" for many years. Dr. S. C. Wolfe and Dr. L. L. Wolfe had dental offices for many years where Dr. Bruce Anderson, dentist, now practices.

Louis DeRosa's Shoe Repair Shop and the Colonial Beauty Parlor now occupy the rooms which were once the office of Dr. F. B. Humphreys, and

the Charles Slade Barber Shop. Shoe repair men before DeRosa in this building were Schultz, and later Shroyer. Associated with Slade in the barber shop were L. Clay, and later, Lester Porter.

Duke's Snack Bar is now managed by Mr. and Mrs. Keith Dailey. The building is owned by the Helme heirs and before "Duke" Healy converted it into the snack bar and operated it several years, he had sold Dodge cars and trucks in this building. Floyd Faulkerson (now deceased) used this building for Buick sales and service, prior to Mr. Healy.

That building with the ultra modern front is used as the down-town offices of the Northern Indiana Public Service. For many years Merle Tucker has managed the interests of this company in this area. Years ago O. Carver, and then later, George Ireland, used this space for the "Wells-Fargo" later known as the Railway Express business.

"Baldwins" is Angola's leading music and hobby shop. Preceding occupants of this building were Tom Mitchell, Fred Smith, and Harold Hughes. It was then known as the Modern Store and the Fred Smith Gift Shop, and was operated by Mr. Smith.

On the site which was once the property of Dr. T. F. Wood and Dr. T. W. Creel, the "Angola" building was constructed. Intended for a theater, it was never completed for that purpose. Owned now by the Brokaw Corporation, it was used for storage purposes for a time. Later, parts of it have been used as a news stand where Richard Brokaw was proprietor, another part for the Taxi Company office, but the main part served for a time as the Auto Body Repair Shop for the Randolphs and a front sales room for Ed. Sellgren's Buick Agency. Cottner's Yard Goods now occupy the space once used for a newsstand. In this same building is the new Dodge Sales—owned by Fulton and Jacobs.

Hotel Hendry, now owned by Ollie Bassett and Charles Rodebaugh, is leased to Louis Chiricotti. The history of this hotel may be found elsewhere in this volume.

Wilder and King Company operate Angola's largest furniture store. Richard Wilder is manager, and Kay Sanxter is one of the owners actively engaged in the work of the store. I. E. King, while a partner in the business, has agricultural interests in another state. This large section of the Hotel Hendry building was once used as a general

store by the Leiningers, and later by H. Higbie. Ernest Kemery, Carver and Brown, and Carver and King, are names of firms having furniture store businesses here before Wilder and King Company.

The building which now houses the Order of the Moose and Clark's Barber Shop was once called the Byron Work building. Byron Work had a real estate office on the second floor and leased the remaining space for business purposes. George Kirk had a general store on the corner for many years. He came into Angola from a York township farm and was a very successful merchant. Following Mr. Kirk, Charles Wells and his son, Cleon Wells, conducted a grocery in the same rooms for fifty-one years and then sold their business to Alvin Williams who continued the business at this point, until the Order of The Moose decided to rebuild and have their home here. Al Williams then moved across the street into a building he purchased from Frank Jackson.

Prior to the Clarks, a barber shop was operated in this room for many years by John Adams and Lee Bender. When Adams retired, the firm was Bender and Clark, until Lee Bender moved to Reno, Nevada.

Foutz's Electrical Shop has been in its present location for many years. This room, owned by the Mugg heirs, had previously been used as a meat market by Mast Brothers, H. Lyle Shank, Roy Cox, and others.

Next building east, known to many in the past as the John Metzgar building, is now the property of the Robert Metzgar heirs. The downstairs rooms are now used by the Angola Dry Cleaners. Prior to this occupancy, Ross Miller used the rooms for a tailor shop and then a dry cleaning establishment for many years. Upstairs rooms have been used by insurance agencies: Curtis Heckenlively, Ivan W. Clem, Metzgar, and J. W. Hostetler. Ivan W. Clem sold out to Irvin Metzgar. He then sold to Harvey W. Morley who engaged Mary Metzgar as a bookkeeper, and later John W. Hostetler, whom she married. Later, the Morley Agency was reorganized as the Farmers and Merchants Insurance Agency and removed to the Waller block on West Maumee Street. It was then reorganized as the Tri State Improvement Company.

The work of preparing this history is being done by Mr. Morley in these rooms. At the top of the stairs leading to these rooms you will find the law offices of Maurice McClew, now Angola's

senior attorney, with a long record of excellent service rendered to this area, legally, financially, and otherwise.

Next door east downstairs, we find the Willis Love Company building now housing a wholesale tobacco, candy, and supply business, operated by Leland and Roscoe Nedele, and their mother, Mrs. Charles Nedele. Charles Nedele worked with Willis Love for many years. Willis Love had a cigar factory on the second floor. The lower floor was used for pool, billiards, and retail sales of tobacco and candy.

"Serving Angola and Steuben County since 1885" is a good business slogan for the Kratz Drug Store. Henry Kratz was the progressive type of business man and built up a good clientele. His son Melvin Kratz, Melvin's daughter Kathryn, and her husband, Ben Gordon, operate this store in which people love to shop.

Next door we find the Carl Strock Men's Clothing Store recently purchased from Jerry Jacobs. N. Owens opened a clothing store in this building quite a number of years ago. Before his occupancy it had been used as a shoe store, and prior to that had housed Wells' Harness Shop.

On the corner today we find the Angola Dress Shop owned by Muriel Smalley and her daughter Kay. In the basement of this building is the "Kiddies Shop" of Hazel Metz, who for many years was the proprietor and manager of the entire store. This building housed the F. E. Burt Jewelry Store for approximately 30 years. Prior to that it was the A. Fry singer Drug Store.

Turning right at this corner we go to the southwest corner of the square and find the First Federal Savings and Loan building. This is managed by Pearl Brennan, one of Angola's leading business and professional women. The Rolland Weaver Insurance Service is in the rooms to the south in this building. Office rooms on the second floor have been used in recent years by the Pleasant Township Trustee and the Triple A, serving agricultural interests of the community. This building was for many years called the Zipfel Building where Joseph Zipfel had a shoe store. Moving east at this corner we see the Miller-Jones Shoe Store in a building owned by Mrs. Ed. Kolb. Above this store are several offices, one of which now houses the Philip S. Johnson Insurance Service and one, Gerald Deller's Law office. The other office rooms have been occupied by other in-



surance agencies, served as Red Cross headquarters and Walter Honett's Reflector.

Next door is the Angola Baking Company which has had many proprietors in the past 80 years. To older residents the names of Gibson's Bakery and Throps' Bakery will bring back memories. Present proprietor is Wilfred Toensing.

Hamma's Feed Store has taken on a new look under his able management. Before Mr. Hamma bought this business it had been operated for many years by Samuel Morrison. Fred Sheldon once owned and operated this store. The rooms above the bakery and feed store have been the offices for many people—T. P. French and H. Lyle Shank were there for many years with their law practices. Now Moreland's Photography Studio occupies these rooms.

Bassett's Restaurant on the corner is a place well advertised for miles around and on all main highways. The proprietor is Ollie Bassett who has been very successful in this business. Preceding the Bassetts, Joe Cascarelli had an ice cream parlor, candy and fruit store on this corner, doing both a retail and wholesale business in these products. Earlier occupant of this building was Thomas Gillis who had a fine grocery business, and the building was then called the "Gillis Block."

Turning the corner and going south on Wayne Street we find the Joe Douglas Automotive Paint Supply Store in a new building, with ample space to display many fine products. Earlier buildings on this site housed stores which have been razed by fire or torn down. One of these was the Sam Dick Grocery.

A. C. Wood, attorney at law, owns the fine brick structure on the corner of Wayne and West Gale Street with offices below and living apartment on the second floor. City Judge Trennepohl also has office space in this building.

Across Gale Street, south, is the Cardinal Cafe. This building and business is owned and managed by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hall. This fine structure was planned and arranged by Mr. Hall. Years ago another structure was on this corner, and used by J. A. Shaughness and other dealers for the sale of carriages, and implements, etc.

Continuing south on the right side of Wayne Street, we approach the city limits and find another fine Phillips 66 Service Station erected by Casebeer and Arnold and leased to this oil company. The manager of this station is Carl Demorest.

Just south of this station we find the location of "Neon Signs" and a commodious building owned by Harold Martin and son, Ralph, for agricultural implement sales. Across the street to the east they also have another large building for car and truck sales.

Below the city limits on the right side of Road U. S. 27 we find the R.E.M.C. Building. From this building many modern appliances are distributed, particularly to rural patrons throughout the county. Mr. Puffer was manager of R.E.M.C. for many years (He is now deceased). T. P. Charles is the efficient secretary of this important enterprise.

A little farther on we find the Studebaker Building, constructed and operated by Adams and Fradenburg, with Sunoco gas and oils as their products. The Swank Furniture company has space in the north end of this building.

Last business places on the right side of the road are Arthur Butler's contractor shop, and further south the stock yards, located along the N.Y.C.R.R. tracks and managed by Mr. Huard.

Returning north to Gale Street and going west we find Covell and Deller's Agricultural Implement business. Cary and Russell are truly the farmer's friends. On East Gilmore St., we find the Chard Implement Company.

Turning north again at Elizabeth Street, we find The J. H. Parsell and Sons Company managed by Enos Parsell who buys and sells poultry and eggs, also poultry feed. Enos owns turkey farms also, and raises and markets some of the very finest turkeys available. Holtzman's Hatchery is next door, and specializes in chickens. Holtzman also has a poultry building along the N.Y.C. right-of-way west. Clark Holtzman is manager of this business.

L. P. Romero, Electrical and Heating Contractor, has his shop in this same block. The Heidelberg tavern and Perley's liquor store are in this block.

Other places of business in the Southwest part of the city are the Lakeland Radio and Television owned and operated by Harold Stevens. Also the College Grocery which has had as proprietors, since its origin, Charles E. Carey, Tribolet, Kenneth Green, Carol Woodard, Dorothy Culver, Nina Johnson, and J. H. Hornbrook.

On South Darling Street we find the Umbaugh and Ras Williamson Barber Shops; also Clyde Shaw's Radio Shop. On West South Street near the college, we have the Nelson Electrical Shop. South and west of the college campus is the Shell

Bulk Station which provides the Shell line of Gas and Oil, also other products to Shell dealers of this area. The manager is Rolland Penix.

Ora Jackson's Furniture Store is also on South Darling Street.

On the Fox Lake to Pleasant Lake Road you will find VanWagner's market, where meats are both wholesale and retail priced.

Stevenson, Electrical Contractor, is also located in the southwest part of the city as is Jay Lane, a painting contractor; and Mussers, the masons and plasterers.

On W. Gale Street near the N.Y.C. station you will find the Ronald Owens Coal Yards and Artificial ice plant. His father, Thomas Owens, enjoyed a fine business in this location before him. The Tri-State Tool Company has its plant in a nearby location across the railroad tracks.

Crossing U. S. 27 to the east side and south from the city limits we find very important recent developments in our mercantile industry. Max Newnam has the Cities Service Station and also handles auto and truck tires.

A new Standard Oil Station, a Gulf Station, and a Marathon Service, the Alwood Tractor and Farm Implement Sales; the F. B. McNaughton Oldsmobile Agency and Implement Company; the terminal facilities of the Expressway, Inc. (trucking) managed by Glenn Hackett; the Zimmerman Dri-Gas Store and Keller's Bait Store. Until recently the Gaycrest Dairy had its offices in this area. The business was started by Frank Gay and later owned and operated by Herman and Dean Wilson. This business recently was combined with the Crone's Dairy and is transacted from the quarters of the Crone Company on the angling road east and then toward the south from Angola. Another establishment of Frank Gay was the "Gay Barn," a popular eating place at the south city limits. This is now owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Scoles. A little to the south on U.S. 27, we come to the used car lot which for many years was owned by the Maxton Chevrolet Company and managed by William Chaudoin. Farther to the south we find the Angola Auction Sales where community sale of live stock is held on each Monday. Close by is Dewey Nodine's Auto Parts, and east of this is the Angola Nursery owned for many years by Frank Jackson but now operated by Earl Eberhart. Just east of Angola on the road south of the Hendry Park School building is the Redding Hatchery owned and operated by Carl Redding

and son, Ralph. This is the oldest hatchery in this area.

Returning now to Angola's Public Square, southeast, we pass the Steuben County Court House and as we turn the corner to go north we are in front of the Steuben Printing Company building. The history of this company is given in another section. On the second floor of this building are the offices of attorneys W. K. Batchelet and Harvey Shoup. Other offices on this floor are occupied by Ray E. Willis and the Tower Builders.

Remaining buildings in this section of the square are the Masonic Building and First National Bank. The W. R. Thomas Store has used the first floor of the Masonic Building since its location in Angola. Prior to the present store in the Masonic Building, J. Riede and Son of Fremont occupied this floor as a store. Catherine Wood had the dress department in the Riede Store then.

Turning east off the square at the First National Bank corner we come to a new building owned by Dr. Don Cameron and leased out for offices. The Union Construction Company, toll road contractors, now hold the lease. This building was erected by Adams and Fradenburg and used for several years for the Kaiser-Frazer and later their Studebaker sales and service. Singer Sewing Machine, also Land of Lakes Realty have rooms in this building.

Going east past the Angola Post Office building on a site where Dr. Hugh Wood once had his medical office, and on east past the Ralph Steffan Real Estate office and residence, we come to the Angola Garage operated for many years by L. B. Clark and Sons. Since L. B.'s death, his sons have carried on, and have a well known service. Other businesses have occupied parts of this same building, once the Congregational Church and later the United Brethren Church. When the latter group disbanded in Angola, the building was sold to Carl Casebeer and he remodeled and built to it, giving more floor space. For a time the Field Home Equipment Company used part of this building; the Rogers Wreath Company when it first came here used a part; Maxton's Chevrolet Sales and Service had quarters here for many years. Today a part is used by Ralph Frisinger and associates for their distribution service; another part by an automotive parts distributor.

Going past the Cameron Hospital, Inc., and past the American Legion Home and athletic field, we come to another new business center for Angola.



Just inside the city limits are Robert Lamoreaux's Gulf Service, Pontiac and Reo Sales and Service. Mr. Lamoreaux constructed this building. Just east of the Lamoreaux building we have Ted Chapman's Ford Sales and Service. Ray Alwood recently erected this building for the Ford automobile and truck business and related parts and equipment. He sold this part of his business to Ted Chapman about three years ago. Next building east is that of the Meyers Dairy Appliances and other electrical equipment. At the present time the Steuben County Auto and Vehicle License Bureau of which Kenneth Meyers is manager is also housed here. East a short distance from the city limits is found Martin's Market, where seasonable fresh fruits and vegetables can be obtained.

Other businesses in the southeastern section of the city in past years were Jeffrey's Blacksmith Shop and the Cox Manufacturing Company, in which a Television Repair Service is now located. A greenhouse owned and operated by the Egglestons for many years has been recently modernized by the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Cleon L. Throop.

Several different firms have had agricultural implement sales rooms in this southeast section. Kiefer Myers was one of them. Shirley Call owns the Oliver Sales Service, also located in that section of town.

Returning to the public square, northeast corner, and the Beatty Block, previously mentioned in this account, we have the Elizabeth Harman Dress Shop operated by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Harman, in a corner room which once housed the Steuben County State Bank, then Troyers' Restaurant, and the Kroger Store before the latter company moved into new and larger quarters on North Wayne Street.

Next room east is now used by the Tribolet 5 and 10 cent store. Previous to Tribolet's occupancy the Haffner 5 and 10 had been in this room. And previous to that the Angola Post Office was located here until the present post office was erected.

The next room east has been used as a drug store for as many years back as we can recall, by Stoners, Kolb Brothers, Milleman, Ralph Frisinger and by the Christians as proprietors. Recent proprietors have retained the name of Kolb Brothers, for Edward and Arthur Kolb were well known throughout a wide area. Recently this store

was purchased by Chas. G. Willis, and is now called the "Willis Drug Store."

Fred Smith's Gift Shop is the next door east. Prior to his location here these rooms had been the Beatty Bakery for about a half century. Previous mention was made of this business also.

On the second floor of this Beatty Block you will find the medical offices of Dr. M. M. Crum and Dr. Robert Kolb. Until his recent death, Dr. Lane had also occupied an office here. Here too we find the law offices of D. W. Gleason, Jr., who with his father D. W. Gleason, Sr. (now retired) has practiced law for many years; also the law office of Fred Goudy; the Angola or Circle Beauty Shop, owned by Katherine (Doudt) Ryan and Virginia Brokaw are just above the Harman Dress Shop.

The Gamble Store is the last building next to the corner and east of the Beatty Block. Paul Melby has managed this store for several years and it has had a remarkable growth under his guiding hand. We have mentioned previous hardware firms which have occupied this building, above—namely, the Callendars, Thobes, and Bennetts.

Turning the corner we have J. M. Fisher's Barber Shop, the Fashion Shoe Store, A. & P. Food Store, and Roger's Drug Store. Mention has already been made of the firms occupying these rooms in earlier years. We might say that the Model Grocery had its origin in the building now occupied by Roger's Drug Store. The Gamble Store was once in this building. Harold Loomis had a drug store here next, and sold his business to Roger Commager, who is the present owner.

Above the A. & P. Food store is the office of Dr. M. J. Blough, Optometrist. Back of the Rogers Drug Store facing Maumee Street is the Bucklen Building erected by Bucklen of Elkhart, when he brought his St. Joseph Valley Line Railroad to Angola. Since the Valley Line went out of existence this block has been used for business purposes. Where tickets were once sold, Williamson, Slim Clarke, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Hubbard, and now the K. & H. News Stand have invited public patronage.

In the center rooms Lee Hirsch has operated the Economy Wall Paper and Paint Shop. The Albion Credit Corporation has another room next door where a restaurant called the Coffee Cup existed for a time. The small room to the west in this block has had many occupants. It was once a summer outlet for an ice cream firm, and is now home of-

fice for the County Mutual Insurance company with K. Maugherman, Mr. Waring, and now Lester Porter in charge of the office. It has also housed the Sharon Ann Floral Shop for a number of years. This shop was founded by Maxine Rinehart and named for her young daughter. The Sharon Ann Shop has had several owners since, and the present one is Fred J. Bodiker.

The upper floor of the Bucklen Block for many years afforded office space for G. Kenneth Hubbard, attorney at law and Justice of the Peace, until he purchased the building diagonally across from the Court House annex and fitted up a fine suite of offices there. A bowling alley was operated in part of that second floor space by LaMar Buck until he moved to the new building erected by Bart Golden, facing West Gilmore Street just across from the Sharrow Bendix Laundry. Today most of that second floor of the Bucklen Block is used as an armory by our local national guard unit, and has the county selective service office.

For several years the then called O.I.M. Truck Line had an office and terminal dock in an addition built to the Bucklen Block. Charles Griffin had a garage business in the next building north from the O.I.M. entrance. Near here is located the Cecil Swift Tin Shop, a business owned and operated many years by Cecil and his father, Brady Swift. The Gafill Service Station is just opposite the post office and has had many managers, some of the more recent ones being: C. W. Griffin, William Goodwin, Max Moor, and Ford Harman.

Back of the Gafill Station is a large building erected by the Kolbs and occupied by the Packard Sales and Service. Former owners of the Packard Agency in Angola were Naurice Owens, and later David Palfreyman was associated with Ted Hughes in this business until David's death. Al Stolte used this building as a Dodge-Plymouth Agency and Service for a short time before Ted Hughes.

East of the Gafill Station is a dental office first used by Dr. Robertson and later sold to Dr. Leif Steenerson who is the present owner.

Occupying an important space at the east end of this block is the Cadillac Corral—a used car lot—and back of it the Cadillac Sales Room and Service. This building was erected by the Kolbs, and car lot and Cadillac Sales and Service were managed by Joe Kolb for a time. Joe Kolb once had a real estate office in rooms above what is now the Rogers Drug Store, and is founding a factory in Angola at the present time. Harding and

Davis had a tin shop not far from this Cadillac Garage at one time. Also C. Sierer had a fender and body repair shop not far from the tin shop. North on Williams Street we find the Page Dairy Plant managed by Barton Page, and W. Harmon's Slaughter house for custom butchering. On north on Road 827 on the Fremont Road is the Angola Construction Company, and on North Williams Street is the Nelson Neon Sign business owned by Burdette and Maxine Nelson.

Near the city limits, east, a new Standard Station has been erected. East of this there was a small Shell Station operated by Mr. Preston for a time. Since then Dr. V. Hornbacker used it as an office until he purchased land and built out at Matthews corners west of Angola. The Meyers Dairy Appliance Company then used this building until they erected a larger structure across the street. The past year this building has had a stock of groceries and is managed by Germ Clark.

Going beyond the city limits for some distance we find two motel courts not far apart, and the "Pines" a little farther on. Service stations selling gas, oil, etc., are connected with all three places. North of the Pines are large greenhouses where George Ryan grows and ships to many points, beautiful orchids.

Returning now to the Beatty Block corner, we go north on Wayne Street which is also U.S. 27 and leads north to the Indiana East-West Toll Road. On the east side we find Chuck's Hamburger Shop, started by Charles Priest in a small but very modern building. Harold Krein is now the proprietor and manager.

Next place north is a fine new Texaco Station. Clint Carpenter and brother have had a Texaco service at this point several years. Mr. Strait from Ligonier had this same service prior to the Carpenter Brothers.

Golden Auto Parts have a large brick building owned by Bart Golden. The auto parts department dates back to 1917 but garage service started much earlier and continued down to this year. C. R. Bratton has managed this business for many years.

The north section of this Golden building has housed many different enterprises. Among these were the Casebeer and Arnold Chrysler and Plymouth Sales, also their real estate office; the Railway Express Company offices for a time; more recently the Packard and Willys Agency owned by Hughes and Palfreyman, Toll Road Engineers



and Contractors now occupy this section and the one time garage repair section.

Farther north on this street we find "Brown's" frozen custard and ice cream outlet; Ray Ferrier's Trailer Sales; Dirrim's Mobiloil Service Station; Jim Unger's Hardware and Sporting Goods Store; Sandy's Drive In—built and operated by "Sandy" Bobilya. Frozen custard, ice cream, other refreshments, and good foods are retailed here. Next place north is the Root Beer Drive-In—owned and operated by Herman Butt.

Next is Impton's Grocery, a comparatively new store in Angola. Developed by Ritter and Johnson, it has now reached a very important niche in the grocery and meat business under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Impton.

Reese's Wall Paper and Paint Store managed by E. T. Reese now occupies a building which housed a north end grocery for years. For many years it was called the "Flowers' Grocery" and was owned by Frank Flowers.

From this point on there has been much development in new businesses and buildings to the north in the past ten years; namely: Henry Griffin's Radiator Shop; Economy Grocery and Tent and Awning Company started by Clarence Lydy. Maxton Chevrolet Sales and Service has a very new and commodious building completed in 1954. A few rods east of the new Maxton Building is Al. Lonsbury's garage and wreck towing service, a building erected by Mr. Lonsbury, who had operated garage businesses in several other locations for more than 20 years.

North from the Maxton building is the Chrysler Sales and Service now owned by Goldsmith and purchased from Casebeer and Arnold who had been Chrysler dealers ever since there were Chrysler cars.

In quick succession come a Gulf Service Station; a Standard Service Station with "Dew Drop Inn" in conjunction; the Morse Heating and Plumbing business, and Beinhacker's restaurant. Another north end restaurant was built by a Mr. Dunden and is operated by his daughter. Its location is favorable for employees of the Weatherhead Manufacturing Company.

Crossing the railroad track, north, we come to Kessler's Market, the original Top Hat restaurant now owned by Robert Morley and doing a remarkable "drive-in" business during the spring, summer, and autumn; Wild and Arnold's Cities Service Station combined with the Mercury Sales and

Garage also operated and owned by Mel Wild and Howard Arnold; and the Boyce Drive-In, erected by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Boyce and operated by them. Farther out is the "Mann Auto Body Repair and Paint Shop" operated by Harley Mann, Jr., and his brother Richard Mann. Both are sons of Harley Mann, Sr., who established this business in Angola many years ago.

An electrical business now occupies the building constructed as a roller skating rink and used for that purpose only a short time. The Drive-In Theater, a Sinclair Filling Station, and "Tommy Tucker's" Frozen Custard and Restaurant Stop are in close proximity. Lloyd Elliott is the owner and manager of the theater which is called the "Lake-land." Next place north is Harold Sheffer's Trailer Sales and Real Estate office.

Coming back into Angola and beginning just north of the Williamson Hardware block, we find the Field Home Equipment Company in their own building managed by Eddie Field, son of the founder of this business, Arthur Field. This building site years ago was used by Tom Freeman and Lacey for their photograph studio; Dr. L. L. Dill once had his osteopathic office on this site. Then Russell Cary used it for photography. When the Kroger store opened in Angola, it was in this building.

North of this building we find the real estate office of Carl Casebeer and Barton Arnold, with Paul Kratzer associated with them; also the Liechty Jewelry Store. This site was once a Texaco Station and operated under the name of "Max and John's" station.

Just west of this real estate office and jewelry store is the Angola Bottling Works which Charles Rodebaugh has developed into a very important business. Mr. Rodebaugh has his own buildings with ample space and equipment for production, and a fleet of trucks for distribution of his soft beverage products. Farther west on Gilmore Street we find the Model Grocery, Frozen Locker Storage, Sharrow Brothers' Laundry Service, the Lemley Laundry, and also the Bowling Alley. On west is also the Cabinet and Case shop owned by Russell Jackson.

Across Gilmore Street, north on Wayne, we find the Exchange building of the General Telephone Company; next the large store building erected recently by Edward Kolb and leased to the Kroger Company. Joe Cather is the present Kroger Store manager, preceded by his brother, Robert Cather,

now district manager for Krogers. Prior to the Cathers, Alvin Williams was the Kroger Store manager.

Don Boyer had a Typewriter and Business Machine Sales just two residences north of Krogers. Farther north on Wayne Street we come to the large office and storage building of the General Telephone Company, leased to them by Carl Casebeer, owner, and once used for the Chrysler and Plymouth show rooms and service.

On west Mill Street we find the Angola Lumber Company where Herman Kohl and "Sparky" Webb have promoted a good business for many years. West of their business is the Rogers Wreath Company, on the same side of the street.

Next place of business on North Wayne Street is Frank Tiffany's Sinclair Service and Garage; then the Hy-Flash Service Station owned by Don Jack; the Pet Milk Plant described elsewhere in this volume; the Fairview barbershop. The barbershop was used by "Specs" Snyder for a time but is now operated by Otis Coons. The grocery is the North End's oldest enterprise and among its proprietors down through the years are the names of: Peet and Parish, John Ritter, Peter Dick, Willard Johnson, and the present owners are Forrest Scoles and Walter Deeter. Next place to the north is the Parks Restaurant.

Turning west at the Parks Restaurant, we come to the Sheets Oil Company, owned and operated by Harcourt Sheets and his son Charles. They handle Phillips 66 products. The office manager is "Bernie" Caswell, who has been with them for a considerable time.

Continuing west across the railroad tracks is the Angola Brick and Tile Company, operated by Le-land Ewers. This firm is engaged in the handling of Coal, Tile, Cement Blocks, etc.

Coming back, and crossing to the north side of the street across from the restaurant, we find the Firestone Sales and Service operated by Andrew Chalmers and dispensing Standard Oil Products.

North of the above named business is a beauty shop, owned and operated by Mrs. Julius Waltenberger. The Waltenbergers previously had shops in the Beatty Building and also at Pleasant Lake. Turning west on Weatherhead Street, we come to the Weatherhead Company, one of Angola's largest enterprises and manufacturers of Brass Fittings, etc.

Coming back to the main highway, U.S. 27, and again turning north, we come next to the "Town

House Restaurant" a new business owned and operated by Chuck Priest. The site of this new restaurant was formerly Shiley's Market.

Next place north is the "Dairy Queen" operated now by Mr. and Mrs. Ford Snyder, while just across the railroad tracks is the Frank Rose Saw Mill which has been in operation for many years. Leaving the Saw Mill and continuing north we see the "Sunrise Dairy" and north of that the next place is the North State Sales owned and operated by James Baker. Mr. Baker sells bottled gas and also handles house trailers.

Continuing north, we find the beautiful new Tri State Motel, recently erected by Elmo Taylor, and operated by Melvin McNett. Part of this houses a very modern gift and novelty shop.

We come next to the Manor Beauty Shop owned and operated by Billie Jo Reese.

Going on down the highway we come to the Angola Bait Shop, the Angola Pottery Shop, and also the Star Television. Next is the Waller Antique Shop and farther out we find the Five Acres Market and the Lakeland Pet Shop.

The task of writing "Mercantile Development" has been a large one. We sincerely hope no one has been left out. If so, it is an oversight and wholly unintentional.



## The Dairy Industry

By Conway Garn

Dairying in Steuben County dates back to 1831, when J. B. Wisel came to Indiana and settled in what is now known as Salem Township. It is very probable that during the same year several other settlers came, and cows being very necessary to them in making a living, they all brought a few. Of course there were no fences in those early days and at least one cow belonging to each settler, wore a bell.

At this early date Steuben County was mostly heavy timber, and cattle would often range possibly a couple of miles from the farmstead. However, the cow bells were loud, and naturally the settlers who had cows could tell the sound of their



own cow bell, so they would know the general direction of their herd.

Stock dogs were a great help in those days. Wild animals of course were numerous, and deer, then as well as now, often ranged with the cattle. It is reported that a man by the name of Michael DePue, who lived near Nevada Mills, killed 23 deer in 24 days, just taking his gun along when he went after his cows in the evening. Wild animals of the vicious type took quite a toll of livestock, especially of small stock.

Time marches on, and in 1860 the first Census was taken, with 4188 "Milch Cows." Census figures, every 10 years from 1860 to 1940, were as follows:

1860	.	.	.	.	4,188 Head
1870	.	.	.	.	3,823 Head
1880	.	.	.	.	5,128 Head
1890	.	.	.	.	4,406 Head
1900	.	.	.	.	4,554 Head
1910	.	.	.	.	5,227 Head
1920	.	.	.	.	4,687 Head
1930	.	.	.	.	10,400 Head
1947	.	.	.	.	12,061 Head
1954	Approximately 11,000 head, 2 years and older.				

Until about 1920 very nearly all the milk produced was skimmed and sold or churned into butter on the farm. A great many farm wives churned their cream and made it into butter for family use and for their "Butter Customers." A great many town folk appreciated good butter to the extent that they were regular weekly customers. Of course the regular run of butter was sold at lower prices to grocery stores and was put in barrels, shipped to the cities, reworked and resold for consumption. I might add here that the women who made butter for their regular customers got considerably better prices than the average store price.

About the turn of the Century there was a co-operative creamery started up at Howe, Indiana, which gathered milk for skimming in the western part of Steuben County, especially around Orland. They did a very good business, and made a good outlet for cream in that area. They gathered milk daily with a pair of horses and a wagon hauled it in, the creamery skimmed the milk and sent the "whey" back to the farmers. Some farmers had a high feed value on "whey" as hog feed. About the same time a similar station was set up in Fremont, but it soon went out of business.

About 1935, another station started up in Columbia, Ohio. It too folded up shortly.

About 1916, a farmer from near Orland, Ed. Spade by name, came to Angola and started to buy cream. He enjoyed a good business and later went in partnership with a man by the name of Ives. In 1920 Mr. Spade organized his business into a co-operative and added ice cream to the business. They operated several years very successfully, but closed it up in the late 20's. Ed. Spade then went on a farm and started to raise registered Guernsey Cattle. He was a natural "cow man," and did very well, and a great many farmers who made a success at dairying did it by following the advice and encouragement of Ed. Spade.

In 1918 "Schlosser Bros.," a Ft. Wayne Creamery and Ice Cream Company, located in Angola under the management of Ben James, and within a couple of years, had cream stations in every town and village, in the county. They operated as far north as Hillsdale, but Angola was the hub of their business. Without a doubt, Schlossers' success in Angola and vicinity, was due to the very efficient and untiring efforts of Ben James. They closed their business late in 1936, as by this time the greater part of the milk produced in the area, was going to condenseries.

In 1925 The Van Camp Milk Company bought the building on North Wayne St., and proceeded to remodel for a milk condensery. Late in Dec. of that year they received the first milk at the plant, approximately 1600 lbs. There were two routes and both came from the Salem Area. One was operated by Ted Hall, the other by Ellis Wisel. George Wisel, (now deceased), was the first farmer to have a can dumped, and his number was 207. Everyone had the privilege of hauling his own milk in to the plant. Mose Latta lived in the northeast part of town (as he still does) and brought his milk in every morning with a wheelbarrow.

Most of the farmers were skeptical about the whole affair, because of the fact that the Company only paid once a month, and the first check was two months in being issued, so little progress was made until the few farmers that did start on opening day got their first checks. The price was \$1.75 for 3.5 test and 5c per pt. The amount of cash received for a month's milk was so much more than they had received from selling cream, that farmers changed from cream to milk pretty fast. The demand for condensed milk was good, and as an incentive, Van Camp's gave a set of silver-

ware to each new patron for a certain length of time. The high day in pounds of milk in 1926 was 33,000 lbs. and, by coincidence, in 1927 was 66,000 and in 1928, 99,000 lbs.

Van Camp's Milk Company and dairying in Steuben County, got a lot of publicity, through newspapers and farm magazines, as well as talking with friends and neighbors, and soon competitive Milk Companies were locating in the area. Kendallville was first to follow Angola, then La-Grange, then Sturgis, and Ft. Wayne. Farmers were keeping more cows, roads were being improved, much more efficient trucks and the steady increase in demand for milk, caused the routes to increase their mileage. At first the routes were about 40 miles average, and now in 1954 many are above 100 miles.

In 1926 The Van Camp Company sponsored a finance plan directed by A. M. Baker, manager of the Angola plant. (Here I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Baker. I do not believe there ever has been a man, who did more for the community, during the time he was here, than he.) The deal was to finance as many cows as the producer had, and the producer was to pay 50% of his milk check until the note was paid. All the banks in the County, together with the Federal Land Bank of Louisville, Kentucky, cooperated in the handling of the mortgage notes secured by Van Camp's. There were several cow dealers who brought in a great many cows, and as a whole, I will say, they were good quality cattle. To name a few of the dealers there were: Homer Eastburn and Claire Gettings, (now deceased), Carl Casebeer and Lawrence Watson. There was lots of dealing in cows, of course, between farmers. The plan worked out very well for the majority of producers who used it. For a few it did not work, for one reason or another. All went well, however, until the "crash" in 1930, when milk prices dropped about 60%, and cows even more.

Some producers owed more on their cows than they could get for them, and quite a few turned them back to the Company, and I, being field man, repossessed almost 700 head in 2 years. We checked the cows over as well as we could, and the ones we thought would do some good we re-financed, and the others were shipped out.

In 1931 Mr. Baker died and Frank Andrews became manager, and he and I went on and closed the accounts as best we could. By this time the de-

pression was really serious. Banks were closing and all business was seriously affected. Van Camp's went into voluntary receivership. The Kroger Company then took over the entire production of milk at the Angola plant, and continued that way until 1944 when Van Camp sold out all their 7 milk plants to the Pet Milk Company.

Late in the 1930's we began to hear about inspected milk, and soon afterward the Page Dairy of Toledo built a receiving station in Angola, offering a much better market for those who were enough interested in dairying to make the added investment. By this time dairying on a great many farms was the main source of income, and more attention was centered on better cows and bulls to head their herds. Artificial breeding was beginning to be used by a few, and has steadily increased since. By 1946 we began to hear about Grade A milk for bottle use, at a better price, and with more sanitary methods of handling.

It should be remembered that rural electrification made these advancements possible, because until electricity became available on the farms in 1936, there was no machine milking or cooling, etc.

It would be interesting to some to recall some of the distributors of milk in the various towns of the county the past 35 years. Angola had Carl Redding, Cal Ramsay, R. J. Luse, Fred Fast, Charles Wright, Conway Garn, Frank Gay, Wilson Bros., Lee Campbell and Son. Fremont had Ira Pennell, Burl Baker, Ford Follett, Enfield and Moeller; Orland, Clyde Hedglin; Ashley, George Milks; Hamilton, Jay Leonard; Pleasant Lake, Horace VanAuken. Of course there are others I do not think of just now. So time marches on, and as of now Steuben County is among the top counties of Indiana, both in production and quality milk.

In conclusion may I add that I have been associated directly with the industry for 29 years, doing field work and inspection work, starting with Van Camps in 1925. It has been a very pleasant experience to me, for the most part, and I am happy that I could have an active part in helping organize and develop Steuben County's largest industry. Also, I have enjoyed reminiscing about these bygone years with you, and hope each of you who reads this, gets a feeling of satisfaction, as I have, that we have the opportunity of living in a community where top quality dairy products are available to all.



## Clubs, Lodges, Associations

The high standard of social life in Steuben County is promoted and maintained by the clubs, lodges, and other organized groups. There are many in Angola, in the other municipalities and townships in the county. There are associations of business and professional men and women, farmers, boys, and girls. Together they form the warp and woof of this county's progress and prosperity.

Steuben County is particularly fortunate in its International and Affiliated Clubs, such as Sorosis, Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, and other associations. In this section of "The Steuben Story" informed members of each group have written historically of them.

### Angola Chamber of Commerce

The "Angola Chamber of Commerce, Inc.," was incorporated not for profit, on August 3, 1951.

The purposes for which it was formed are as follows:

"To promote and advance the civic, commercial, educational, industrial, economic, agricultural and recreational interests of the City of Angola, Indiana, and the general welfare and prosperity of its tributary territory;

To promote integrity and good faith, just and equitable principles in business and professional activity, on a friendly, co-operative basis;

To foster and maintain high ethical standards in social and business relations of the members, and of the general public welfare;

To provide a forum for the full and free discussion of all matters of public interest, partisan politics and sectarian religion alone excepted;

To provide a medium for the purpose of serving the community by circulating information on the resources and activities of Angola through correspondence, mail, radio and newspaper advertising."

The incorporators were:

Dr. Norman W. Rausch  
Gerald R. Jacob  
Glenn L. Hackett  
E. J. Ries  
Henry E. Willis

The names of the first Board of Directors were:

Glenn L. Hackett  
E. J. Ries  
Dr. Norman W. Rausch  
Joseph W. Cather  
Hermon Phillips  
Gerald R. Jacob  
Henry E. Willis

"The regular membership shall include any and all active members from any business or profession, who shall have full voting power as long as they remain active members, with all dues paid in full.

"The associate membership shall be unlimited in numbers, and shall be eligible for appointment on any committee, but whose qualification for membership is limited to only those whose employers are active regular members. The associate member shall not have power to vote on election of officers."

The Chamber of Commerce was first known as the Steuben County Commercial Club, which was organized in 1910, and Ezra L. Dodge acted as first president. Later, in 1922, the Club was reorganized as the Chamber of Commerce of Steuben County, Indiana, with Raymond E. Willis as its first president. At about this time, the procuring of the land for the Pokagon State Park was their major project, and directors of the Chamber were drawn from each town in the county. Those acting as presidents since that time include Guy J. Shaughnessy, Edward D. Willis, Clyde C.

Carlin, Frank B. Rowley, Harvey W. Morley, D. Carl Ransburg, Orville Stevens, Irvin E. King, Leland H. Ewers, Johan R. Bakstad, Barton Arnold, Lewis G. Maxton, Thomas Badders, Austin Brokaw, and Karl L. Goss.

During the time that Clyde C. Carlin was president, the Van Camp Milk Co. established themselves in the building built by the people of Angola and now occupied by the Pet Milk Company. While Frank B. Rowley was president, the Federal Highway known as U. S. #20 was located through the City of Angola from Toledo to Chicago. In 1940, the Chamber was re-organized and called the Chamber of Commerce of Angola, and at the time Lewis G. Maxton and Barton Arnold were presidents, the Weatherhead Corp. was obtained for Angola. Since August 3, 1951, when Angola Chamber of Commerce, Inc., was incorporated as a non-profit corporation, Gerald R. Jacob, Frank J. Rondot, and Melvin B. W. Wild, have acted as president. The last three secretaries have been Charles G. Pilliod, Jr., Lloyd W. Jacob, and Harvey E. Shoup.



### Angola Junior Chamber of Commerce

By G. Kenneth (Buzz)  
Hubbard, Jr.

The Angola Junior Chamber of Commerce, like its National organization, was founded and is based on the philosophy of Leadership Training through Civic Betterment. It is an organization comprised of young men between the ages of 21 and 35 who give of their time and efforts for the improvement and betterment of their community, state, and nation. The Jaycees of today are the leaders of tomorrow. Vice-President Richard Nixon is but one of the many prominent leaders of today who has been a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Contrary to popular belief, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, or Jaycees, as they are more commonly referred to, is not affiliated with the Chamber of Commerce, and a Jaycee who reaches the age of 36 does not **graduate** to the Chamber of Commerce. He merely becomes an inactive Jaycee

(known to Jaycees as an Exhausted Rooster), thereby enjoying all the rights and privileges of an active member except those of voting and making motions.

The Angola Jaycees were chartered on March 12, 1946. For some time prior to this date organizational meetings had been held in the court room of the Steuben Circuit Court. Present at these meetings were members of the extension committee of the Fort Wayne Jaycees, who sponsored the Angola club, and a group of enthusiastic young men from Angola. The records do not show who these Angola men were, but the evidence from my investigation leads me to the names of Emerson Meyers, Bill Goodwin, Dick Wilder, Ed Williamson, Bob White, Gil Pilliod, Harold Clark, Mearl Blough, and Dean Wilson as the men who were the most active in the organization of the Junior Chamber of Commerce movement in Angola. If I have left anyone's name off that list, it is regrettable and purely accidental.

The minutes of these early meetings show that on Feb. 26, 1946, nominations for officers were made (the records do not show who were nominated), and on March 5 an election was held and Emerson E. Meyers, who was at that time Steuben County Agricultural Agent, was elected the first president of the Angola Junior Chamber of Commerce. The remainder of the executive committee elected at this first election were: Richard C. Wilder, Vice-president; Gerald R. Jacob, Secretary; and Edward Williamson, Treasurer. Elected to the Board of Directors at this time were: Dr. Mearl J. Blough, Robert B. Brokaw, Gillis Pilliod, Dean E. Wilson, William C. Goodwin, and John VanAman.

On March 26, 1946, the Charter Banquet was held for the official recognition and beginning of the Angola Junior Chamber of Commerce. I list herewith the names of the charter members as they appear in their own hand on the official Charter Members Certificate: Emerson E. Meyers, Robert B. Brokaw, Richard C. Wilder, Edward Williamson, Jack W. Shuman, Paul Mellby, Mahlon H. Maxton, Ferdinand E. Chimo, John L. VanAman, Dean E. Wilson, Harold L. Clark, Robert E. Gibson, Wayne Fradenburg, William C. Sutton, Dale W. Campbell, Lewis V. Ott, Gerald R. Jacob, Richard Brokaw, Gillis Pilliod, Cleon Throop, William C. Goodwin, Richard Forbes, James A. Zuber, Francis W. Zuber, Mearl J. Blough, Harry R. Zuber, Robert S. White, Theodore A. Patterson,



Charles E. Priest, Jr., Richard B. Preston, Roland K. Dirrim, and William L. Hopkins.

In 1949 the Angola Jaycees organized and extended a charter to the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Auburn, Ind. The Angola group also organized a Campus Chapter of Jaycees at Tri-State College in 1953 for the purpose of orientating the young men in college into the Jaycee movement, so they would be prepared to enter into Jaycee work in the community in which they settled after leaving college.

Since their inception nine years ago the Angola Jaycees have carried on literally hundreds of projects and programs in their work for the welfare of youth, the improvement of the community, and the betterment of mankind.

In order to continue with their various programs they need money, and they have always endeavored to raise the needed funds through projects that give the people value received, and all such money raised is always returned to the people in the form of civic improvement.

In this respect the annual Town, Farm, and Home Exposition, which was originated by the Jaycees in 1949, is the largest and most arduous fund raising project the Angola Jaycees have. This single week long Exposition involves over 1,000 man-hours, at a conservative estimate. Funds are raised by selling booth space in an exposition tent to the local merchants. A small carnival is incorporated to insure the merchants of large crowds to view their wares.

With the funds from this and other, smaller, projects, the Angola Jaycees have been able to promote, sponsor, and carry out such worthwhile programs as: annual Kids' Christmas Party; Scotchlite Bikes, for the safety of the children; Voice of Democracy; Teen-age Road-e-o, to make teen-agers better, safer drivers; Kids' Baseball League, to teach sportsmanship and fair play. These are but a few of our Youth Welfare Programs.

The largest single civic improvement project yet carried on by the Angola Jaycees was the RADIO ANGOLA project in 1950. The purpose of this was to secure 2-way radio equipment for the City Police, station and car, and the Fire Department. Due to lack of funds the radio equipment for the fire department was not purchased until 1953, at which time the Jaycees used the entire proceeds from the Town, Farm, and Home Exposi-

tion that year to make the purchase and thereby complete the project, RADIO ANGOLA.

It is impractical to attempt to list here all of the numerous worthwhile projects and programs that the Angola Jaycees have either instigated or participated in during the past nine years, but I would like to give mention to a few of the more noteworthy ones that have not already been mentioned. They are: Resuscitator, purchased as part of the life-saving equipment of the Angola Fire Department; Beacon light for the Tri-State Airport; annual fire prevention program; rat control program; insect control program, for prevention of polio; Get Out the Vote program, to get the voters to the polls; securing street name marking signs; Christmas decorations; securing drive-by letter drop in front of post office; brought Armory to Angola; and many others far too numerous to mention.

It is, I think, appropriate (indeed, I would leave this brief history incomplete if I failed) to herewith name the men who have served as presidents of the Angola Junior Chamber of Commerce during these past nine successful years. The first to serve in this capacity was, as has already been mentioned, Emerson E. Meyers, who served the fiscal year of 1946-47; Richard C. Wilder, 1947-48; William C. Goodwin, 1948-49; Charles Skove, 1949-50; Edward Williamson, 1950-51; Dr. Donald G. Mason, 1951-52; Roy E. Bledsoe, 1952-53; Donald L. Boyer, 1953-54; and myself, G. Kenneth (Buzz) Hubbard, Jr., 1954-55.

Wm. C. Goodwin, a charter member of the Angola group, was elected District Vice-president of the 2nd District of Indiana Jaycees for 1949-50. Charles E. Priest, also a charter member, was elected National Director of the State Jaycees for 1950-51, and in 1953-54 Roy E. Bledsoe served as District Vice-president of the 2nd District.



## Boy Scouts of Steuben County

*By Wayne W. Swift*

The Boy Scout movement in the United States of America had as its inception the act of assistance

given by a British Boy Scout to a Chicago publisher lost in a London fog. The publisher, Wm. D. Boyce, was so impressed by the action of the Scout who aided him that before returning to America he asked for and secured a supply of pamphlets describing the organization.

The following year (1910) Mr. Boyce called a meeting of men representing over thirty national organizations interested in boys, and from it evolved the organization that now has over 3,500,000 Scouts and Scouters.

President Taft became the first honorary president, and the first annual meeting was held in the White House.

By the year 1916, Congress, in reviewing the activities of the organization, was so impressed that a charter was granted. This charter in part reads: "The purpose . . . shall be to promote, through organization and cooperation with other agencies, the ability of boys to do things for themselves and others, to train them in Scoutcraft, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self reliance and kindred virtues."

The Scout program has long since become a part of our American way of life, as it promotes a plan resulting in good citizenship and leadership ability.

In 1911 the first troop of Boy Scouts was formed in Angola under the leadership of Dominic Ferrara. A picture of this group is printed in the pictorial Album section of this History showing the following members: Robert Van Cleve, St. Clair Van Auken, Ralph Patterson, Walton Van Cleve, Donno Wolf, Newton Dygert, Mark Frisbie, Harold Cain, DeLoss Goodale.

Another early troop was Troop #1 of Angola, active during World War I, serving as a unit in various capacities in defense activities. This troop was under the leadership of Wymond Ritter, Scoutmaster, and Roscoe Crissinger and Wade Libey as Assistant Scoutmasters. The picture taken in 1916 of this group is also in the Pictorial section, and shows the following members: Oscar Pence, ..... Armstrong, ..... Miller, Mark Croxton, Adelbert Shank, Percy Hammond, Leonard Slaybaugh, Walter Gordon, Carl Mast, Bayne Morley, Bill Miller, Gerald Hubbel, Joseph Weicht, L. L. Wolfe, Bill Austin, Emmet Spade, Frank Alspach, Fritz Graf, Wayne Swift, Lawrence Emerson, and Alan Green.

Scouting has continued to be active in Steuben County throughout the years, and at present (1955)

there are four Boy Scout units in operation in the county. They are:

Troop #181 Angola, Sponsored by the Christian Church.

Troop #183 Pleasant Lake, Sponsored by the Lions Club

Troop #180 Hamilton, Sponsored by the Lions Club

Troop #184 Orland, Sponsored by the Lions Club.

Angola and Hamilton also sponsor Cub Scout Packs which accept a boy at eight years of age and carry him through the Cubbing program to the age of eleven years, at which time he is eligible for entrance into a Boy Scout Troop.

Steuben County can well be proud of its progress in Scouting throughout the years.

## Cub Scouts of Steuben County

*By Paul F. Eble*

Prior to an officially recognized Cub Scout Pack, Russell Handy organized a group of boys younger than twelve years of age, into a club, the activities of which parallel, the present Cub Scout movement. This lasted about two years and was disbanded during World War II.

The first official Cub Scout Pack was organized in Angola in 1945 under the sponsorship of the Loyal Order of Moose, with Bud Miner as Cubmaster. He served approximately six months and was followed by Harry Klink.

Wayne Swift served as Cubmaster of the Pack for the full year of 1946, and was followed in 1947 by Kenneth Brown.

Joe Miller became the Pack Leader in 1948 but relinquished his post to Harry Cook, who served the remainder of the year as Cubmaster.

Clyde Shaw followed as Cubmaster of the Angola Pack in 1949, and James Alaura served for the years of 1950 and 1951.

About this time a Cub Pack was started in Fremont sponsored by the Fremont Commercial Club, but its activities ceased after about two years of operating.

The Angola Cub Scout Pack continued as a unit during the years of 1952 and 1953 with Pat Murphy as Cubmaster, and in 1954 Paul Eble was selected to lead the Cub Scout Pack.

In the Fall of 1954, a Cub Pack was organized in Hamilton, and began to operate as a unit later in



the year, sponsored by the Lions Club of Hamilton with George Bell as Cubmaster.

With so many young boys between the ages of eight and eleven desiring to become Cub Scouts, it was necessary in the Fall of 1954 to reorganize the Pack in Angola into two separate units. This was done, and Walter Holcomb and Paul Eble were selected as Cubmasters of the two Cub Scout Packs which began functioning under the sponsorship of the Loyal Order of Moose in Angola in January, 1955.

At this time Betty Clark was officially appointed director of training for Den Mothers for the county, having served unofficially in that capacity for several years.



## Organizations for Girls in Steuben County

By Mrs. Jesse O. Covell

"We are the Camp Fire maidens.  
Our faces are turned towards the morning,  
In our hearts is the summer of promise,  
In our hands we hold the next generation.  
United, we go forth to meet the future,  
Armed with truth to ourselves  
And love for all."

So sang Rowe Wright in one of the first manuals for Camp Fire Girls.

Girls are any nation's most valuable natural resource. With the conviction of that truth, Dr. and Mrs. Luther Halsey Gulick, of Russell Sage Foundation, mapped the beginnings of the Camp Fire trail. During the summers of 1908 and 1909, they had experimented with a system of activities and awards among their own children and the members of their summer camp. The Gulicks were educators as well as parents, who knew the need of growing bodies and developing young personalities for action in work and play, for the companionship of others in their age groups, and for the love and approval of their elders.

Among the workers with children and teenagers who were watching these summer experiments were James West, later of Boy Scouts, Dr. Lina Beard, sister of Dan Beard, and W. C. Langdon of

Sage Foundation, who were at that time outlining a program for Boy Scouts in America, Dr. Mary Woolman of Teachers' College, Columbia University, and Mrs. Charles H. Farnsworth, of Horace Mann High School for girls.

The result of this professional interest was the founding on March 17, 1910, of a new organization, the Camp Fire Girls, the first of its kind in the world. Its purpose was, and is, to help each member to develop her individual talents and potentialities, that she may be the finest woman which it is possible for her to become.

Although Camp Fire Girls and the Boy Scouts of America were organized in the same year, there is no connection between their programs or administration. Their only similarity is their mutual interest in pioneering, woodcraft, camping, Indian lore, and the wonders of nature. The Camp Fire Girls' program is built on the interests, activities, and spiritual needs of girls, as they differ from those of boys. The Camp Fire name was chosen because the hearth fire was the center of the home and of all the domain of women.

Neither is the Girl Scouts, founded two and a half years later, in any way related or connected to either of the earlier youth organizations. The Girl Scouts was founded by Juliette Lowe of Savannah, Georgia, in the fall of 1912. However, the organization now celebrates Miss Lowe's birthday, March 10, as the birthday of Girl Scouts.

In Steuben County, Miss Gertrude Gilbert of Pleasant Lake (later Mrs. Freeman Smith, now deceased) was the first wise and unselfish woman to recognize the worth of the Camp Fire program and, through it, to give of her time and love to the girls of her community. The group was formed in the summer of 1915. It met in an unused building, formerly the local "nickelodeon." There were probably other members of the group, but the only ones whose names have been ascertained were Ruth Gilbert (Mrs. Harold Smith), Ruth George (Mrs. Leslie Doster), Bernadine Uncapher (Mrs. Omar Worthington, now deceased), Gertrude Orwig (Mrs. Burt Keplar), Eva Orwig (Mrs. Harry Chadwick), and Hazel Church (Mrs. Howard Atha), a summer visitor. This group met only until the following year when Miss Gilbert left Pleasant Lake to resume her duties with the Redpath Chautauqua. It disbanded as a club because no adult leader was found, but the bonds of friendship, formed in Camp Fire have never, except by death, been broken.

Three years later, in 1919, Elizabeth Omstead (now Mrs. William Holman) organized WA-CONDA (loyal friends) group consisting of eight girls living in the west part of Angola. They were: Harriet Allion, Clara and Doris Clark, Mary Lampman, Esther Morley, Mary Malinda Niehous, Katherine Ramsay, and Malinda Shank. Miss Omstead was assisted by her mother, Mrs. Harvey Omstead, and later by Beatrice Rockwell (Mrs. Fritz Graf). During the next year Mary and Claudine Barber, Vivian Sunday, Lois and Wanda Webb, were added to the membership.

In 1921, MICHAWAKA group was organized and named for the beautiful daughter of Chief Elkhart. Miss Iva Harrison was guardian of the group, which consisted in part of Harriet Harrison, Helen and Martha Helme, Lurene Golden, Ilene Holderness, Elinor and Joanna Woods. Mrs. H. B. (Anna) Woods served as assistant guardian until 1925 when the increasing membership made it necessary to divide the group.

Under the guardianship of Mrs. Woods, Waconda was the first group in Angola to receive its charter from the national headquarters of Camp Fire Girls, Inc. Although this may not be a complete roster, members of these two groups included: Lois Cattell, Clara, Doris, and Hillis Clark, Sarah Lou Delano, Laura Ferguson, Dessie German, June Gordon, Ruth Guilford, Lois Harman, Harriet Harrison, Helen and Martha Helme, Ilene Holderness, Mary Lampman, Frances London, Margaret Mast, Virginia Miller, Louise and Josephine Morrison, Helen Musser, Glema Penick, Katherine Ramsay, Glenna Stumpf, Katherine Wilder, Willabelle Willenar, Mary Louise and Margaret Wisman, Elinor and Joanna Woods.

After Miss Harrison's untimely death, Miss Woods was assisted by Mrs. Roy (Imo) Purdy, who later accepted the guardianship of Waconda group. Osean Dick, Willoene Hendry, Marjorie Ogden, Ella Lou Sunday, and Margaret Yoder were added to the membership.

Mrs. Woods, Mrs. Purdy, the Misses Florence Mast, Vera Myers, and Emily Waugh (Mrs. Ora Harman), served as enthusiastic and devoted guardians until the late 1920's, when Mrs. Woods, Mrs. Harman, and Miss Mast left Angola. Mrs. Purdy's health did not permit her to continue and Miss Myers was assigned to sponsor Girl Reserves, now Y-Teens, in Angola High School.

About 1928, Mrs. S. J. (Flossie) Morrison accepted the responsibility of Waconda group, for-

merly led by the Misses Mast and Waugh. A partial membership roll consisted of Opal Blackburn, Helen Casebeer, Emily Ruth Croxton, Gwen Davies, Eileen and Osean Dick, Betty Faulkerson, Jessie Folck, Lurene and Marjorie Golden, Elizabeth Harshman, Frances King, Margaret Mast, Margaret Miller, Helen Wert, Katherine Wilder, and Ruth Yotter. Four of these girls remained in Camp Fire until their graduation from high school, and became group helpers. Miss Winifred Harshman (now Mrs. Lloyd McHoes) is now executive director for Camp Fire Girls in Goshen, Indiana.

On March 17, 1931, Camp Fire's 21st birthday, The Angola Lions club entertained the three groups of Camp Fire Girls. The Michawaka group included Gwen Davies, Ellen Reese, Roberta Van Guilder, Helen Musser, Miriam Shoup, Wilma Wolfe, Louise Gettings, Loraine Hostetler, Helen Smith, Mary Ann Waller, Wava Rose Williams, Sybil Purdy, Clara Ellen Guilford, Pauline McElroy, and Marjorie Ogden. The Waconda group included Helen Casebeer, Ava Shank, Kathryn Coe, Martha Kemmerling, Josephine Morrison, Frances King, Helen Wert, Ruth Yotter, Martha Fisher, Esther Gettings, Emily Ruth Croxton, Sarah Jane Miller, Opal Blackburn, Jessie Folck, Mona Barnes, Osean Dick, Betty Faulkerson, and Eileen Dick. The Potawatomi group included Ilo Blosser, Virginia Kohl, Julia Jane Jackson, Louise Helme, Evelyn Brown, Gale Carver, Aileen Casebeer, Betty Jane Goudy, Donna Mae Griffin, Velma Griffin, Betty Houtzer, Pauline Jackson, June Kohl, Ruth Roberts, Roleyn Saul, Marcella Shank, Charlotte Suffel, Evelyn Tritch, and Evelyn Whitlock.

Because of home responsibilities, Mrs. Morrison regretfully relinquished her group to Mrs. Emory (Emma) Druckamiller, who gave it to Mrs. Merle D. (Hilda) Tucker. Mrs. Tucker led the group until the older girls had finished high school.

Miss Bonnie Myers (Mrs. Melvin Van Wagner) had assisted Mrs. Druckamiller with the younger girls in the group. They subsequently organized TANDA (to love and respect) group, consisting of Gale Carver, Aileen Casebeer, Louise Helme, Julia Jane Jackson, Mary Katherine Orwig, Ava Shank, Lorraine Shank, Virginia Kohl, Evelyn Tritch, and Evelyn Whitlock. Miss Myers' assistant was former Camp Fire girl Ruth Guilford.

Miss Gwen Davies, from Waconda, led Tanda Group until June, 1939, when she, with her parents, moved from Angola. As no woman was found



who was willing to undertake the responsibility of guardianship, there was no Camp Fire in Angola for four years.

In the fall of 1939 Mrs. Don (Mary) Chaddick and Mrs. Merle Tucker led a troop of Girl Scouts in Angola. Members were: Billie Nell Certain, Mari Jean Chaddick, Shirley Erbe, Delia Fisher, Sue Zane Goudy, Mary Lou Martin, Lois Pence, Patricia Randolph, Evangeline Tiffany, Martha Warren, Lois Weaver, Yvonne Wolf, Marjorie Yoder, and Donna Zimmer. The group met until after the summer of 1940, when they spent a week camping in the dance hall at Lake Gage. The troop disbanded early in 1941.

There is an agreement between the national offices of Camp Fire Girls and Girl Scouts that, as they serve girls of the same age group, neither organization will go into a city of less than ten thousand population, where the other has an established council and active groups.

About 1943, at the encouragement of Mrs. Arthur Hettema, who had seen and appreciated the Camp Fire program of ideals and activities, two new groups were formed under the capable leadership of Mrs. Ward (Mildred) Coleman and Mrs. Harold (Betty) Clark. Mrs. Coleman's WAH-WAH-TAY-SEE (little firefly) group included Diana Beatty, Roberta Berkes, Elizabeth Cather, Mary Davis, Jane Diehl, Valerie Erickson, Jacqueline Raney, Charlotte Rogers, Mary Lee Sell, Betty Servis, and Shirley Sutton. Jane, Rosalie, Carolyn, and Shirley continued in Camp Fire and were members of Horizon Club, the high school age group, until 1950.

Mrs. Clark was guardian of the younger girls in O-KA-WA (friends together) groups, in which were Sharon Clark, Sandra Deller, Sally DeLucenay, Patricia Druckamiller, Judith Elliott, Mary Ann Fast, Jane Jack, Colleen Kelley, Joyce LaVine, Anita Lowther, Sharon Murphy, Ann Redding, Rita Sellinger, Greta Lee Sewell, Maxine Spangle, and Margaret Weiss.

In 1944 Mrs. Max (Gloria) Spangle organized a group of Blue Birds, the junior Camp Fire Girls, aged seven through nine years. Mrs. Paul (Mary) Burns was Mrs. Spangle's assistant. In 1946 Patricia Fletter (Mrs. John McBride) organized TAWAN-KA (willing to undertake or attempt) group, receiving into it Mrs. Spangle's Blue Birds, who had newly "flown up" into Camp Fire. After Miss Fletter's marriage, the group was led by Joan Kunderd (now Mrs. Robert Bledsoe) and Mrs. Lewis

(Mary) Ott. In 1948 Mrs. Spangle and Mrs. Burns again guided their girls in Tawanka group, and Mrs. Ben (Eula) Blanchard led the new group of Blue Birds. In this young flock were Margaret Ann Field, Betty Jo Garman, Karen Gecowets, Melissa Henning, Peggy Ann Jarrard, Dorothy McKenna, Susan Jo Rose, Mary Slanina, Linda Smith, Susie Steenerson, Suzanne Ulmer, Sandra Van Wagner, Mary Jo Willis, and Suzan Yoder.

On May 4, 1948, the Angola Council of Camp Fire Girls was organized with the help of Miss Anita Korts from the regional office in Chicago. The original officers and administrative board were: President, Florence Parsell (now Mrs. Jesse O. Covell); Vice President, E. J. Ries; Secretary, Mrs. Barton (Elizabeth) Arnold; Treasurer, Frank H. Deller; Finance Chairman, Russell L. Deller; Leader Training, Mrs. Merle D. Tucker; Camp, Glen S. Beatty; Public Relations, Mrs. Henry (Anne) Willis; Extension, Mrs. Theodore R. (Mildred) Law; Community Service, Mrs. Elmer (Mary) Jensen; and Adult Membership, Mrs. Frank H. (Gertrude) Deller.

From that time, with the help of the district and national offices, of the many appreciative parents, and of the joyous, enthusiastic girls, Camp Fire has grown and flourished in Angola. Miss Parsell served as president of the Council until January, 1951, when she was succeeded by Mrs. Dudley W. (Cathilene) Gleason, Jr. Mrs. Barton Arnold finished Mrs. Gleason's year when she was not able to continue. Mrs. T. R. Law has served the Council in the capacity of president for three years, during which the local organization has prospered and grown in membership and popularity. Among other loyal officers of long tenure are Mrs. Paul (Faye) Erwin and Mrs. Barton (Elizabeth) Arnold, secretary and treasurer respectively; Mr. Ries, who was vice president for three years; and Mr. Edwin Selman, who served as treasurer for two years.

The three divisions of Camp Fire Girls are: Blue Birds, girls of seven, eight, and nine years of age; Camp Fire, girls aged ten through fourteen; and Horizon Club for girls of fifteen or who are in Senior High School.

As the groups have multiplied from one in 1943 to four Blue Bird and five Camp Fire groups in 1954, many altruistic men and women have given of their time, energy, and encouragement to help the girls of Angola to grow in health, character, and sound ideals through Camp Fire. Among the de-

voted women who have taken active parts as leaders, guardians, or assistant guardians (not mentioned elsewhere in this chapter) are Mrs. James (Barbara) Crowl, Mrs. Wayne (Kathleen) Larson, Mrs. Arthur (Myrtle) Nichols, Mrs. Harold (Frances) Jenkins, Mrs. Loene Collins, Mrs. Robert (Lois) Conner, Mrs. Joseph Church, Mrs. George (Catherine) Shrider, Mrs. Ralph (Martha) Emerson, Mrs. Betty Shaw, Mrs. Melvin (Ruth) Carrick, Mrs. Berl (Joan) Waldrath, Mrs. A. W. (Rosemary) Bailey, Mrs. Matthew (Joyce) Westenhaver, Mrs. Stefan (Ann) Slanina, Mrs. Paul (Viola) Sewell, Mrs. Herschel (Betty) Clark, Lola Clinesmith, Donna Alaura, Patricia Randolph (now Mrs. Robert Nidelhofer), and Willa June Ritter (now Mrs. Dean Halsey). Mrs. Max (Gloria) Spangle has been an untiring leader, guardian, sponsor, and council member, serving Camp Fire in the capacity of Blue Bird leader or Camp Fire guardian for twelve years, and driving many miles between Angola and Camp Rainbow, to Fort Wayne or Coldwater—wherever or whenever she was needed. She has led Friendly Blue Birds, Potawat-mik, Ta-wan-ka, and Ca-fi-la-wa-wo (Camp-Fire-Law-Watch-Word) groups in Camp Fire. In 1955, she is assisting with the beginning flock of forty-four Blue Birds.

As stated in the leaders' manual, the dual purpose of Camp Fire Girls is "to perpetuate the spiritual ideals of the home" and "to stimulate and aid in the formation of habits making for health and character."

The Camp Fire program is one of fun, friendship, and interesting out-of-school activities for all girls regardless of race or creed. In Camp Fire groups, girls learn to become efficient home-makers, loyal friends, and responsible citizens.

The Camp Fire Law is: Worship God, Seek Beauty, Give Service, Pursue Knowledge, Be Trustworthy, Hold on to Health, Glorify Work, Be Happy. Camp Fire girls strive to exemplify the laws and to practice their seven crafts, which are: Home, Creative Arts, Outdoors, Frontiers, Business, Sports and Games, and Citizenship. As the girls win honors for accomplishments in each craft they are awarded wooden beads, the color of which denotes the craft. By earning a prescribed number of honors, each girl advances through the ranks of Trail Seeker, Wood Gatherer, Fire Maker, and Torch Bearer. Awards are made at a council fire within each group or at a public ceremonial council fire, at which time the Blue Birds who have

reached the age of ten "fly up" or are graduated to become Camp Fire girls, and their older sisters are advanced in rank.

Since its inception in Angola, more than a thousand girls and young women have found the joy and satisfaction which comes from work well done in Camp Fire. Some of the services which they have given in their local and world communities are their annual help in soliciting and gathering funds for Heart, Polio, and Cancer Foundations, for Red Cross, help with sales of American Legions' and Veterans of Foreign Wars' poppies and forget-me-nots, and War Mothers' poinsettias. This is training in responsibility as well as giving service to worthwhile causes. Further stressing their "Give Service Law," each year girls in various groups make Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas favors for the trays of patients in the local hospitals, nursing homes, and the county infirmary. The girls have spent many hours folding letters and "stuffing" envelopes for the Steuben County Tuberculosis Association and the local chapter of American Red Cross. In 1950 the girls in Mrs. Paul (Pat) Hershner's I-YO-PTA (to progress) group folded five thousand refuse bags for the bedsides in Angola hospitals.

Each year a national project is outlined in celebration of Camp Fire birthday week—the week containing March 17th. The week begins with church attendance, with active participation by Camp Fire girls. Girls of Horizon Club will long remember Sunday, March 13, 1949, when they were invited to take part in the morning worship service at the First Congregational Church. Carolyn Raney served as acolyte, lighting the altar candles; and Margaret Pentico, Jane Diehl, Shirley Sutton, and Greta Lee Sewell served as ushers. During the same week, these five girls with Rosalie Mitchell, Anita Lowther, Donna Davis, and Joan Sams explained Camp Fire on "Junior Jamboree" over radio station WOWO. Mrs. Paul Sewell was Horizon Club leader and Mrs. Paul Erwin furnished transportation.

Camp Fire birthday themes have been varied. In "Making the Most of Me" each girl took stock of her own potentialities of character, personality, and appearance; and studied means for their development. In "Exploring New Frontiers" the girls pursued knowledge of new subjects. Harold Stevens kindly took each group into his amateur radio station, where he explained sending and receiving equipment, and the girls had the new expe-



rience of talking by short wave with a station in California. In 1954 the birthday theme was "Let's be Different Together," teaching world friendship and unity. The Camp Fire girls in Angola packed and sent thirty-three "friendship kits" to girls in Korea, which country they chose as being most in need of friends at that time. Each kit contained pencils, pads of paper, crayons, scissors, needles, thread, pins, buttons, soap, wash cloth, comb, socks, head scarf, candy, and a toy or game. The birthday theme in 1955 is "Let Freedom Ring," teaching patriotism through appreciation for our American heritage.

Who can forget the birthday dinner at the Angola city building in 1950 when sixty-nine reservations were made and one hundred and sixty-four Camp Fire girls, parents, brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts, and even grandparents came! But through the resourcefulness of Mesdames Jack, Lowther, Fast, and Sewell, in the kitchen; and the generalship of Henry Willis, Jerold Essenberg, and Glen Beatty, all were seated, fed, and enjoyed a happy Camp Fire birthday party and program.

One of the most joyous events of the year, both for the girls and for the city's shut-ins, is Christmas caroling. Groups under the leadership of Mrs. Woods and Mrs. Morrison started the custom locally in the mid-twenties, and it has continued until it has become traditional. Beginning in 1948, Miss Bess Cottrell, superintendent of nurses at Elmhurst Hospital, has been hostess annually at a delightful party for the Camp Fire carolers at the close of their frosty tour of Angola. When the 1954 Camp Fire girls were joined in caroling by a troop of Girl Scouts, Miss Cottrell and her staff graciously included them in the party.

At three times since the Angola Council of Camp Fire Girls was chartered in 1948, Girl Scout troops have been organized in Steuben County. Mrs. Harry Hageman of Clear Lake led a troop in Fremont in the fall of 1948. It was disbanded in 1949. Mrs. Gordon Jacob, assisted by Mrs. Lincoln Booth, led a troop of fifteen girls in Orland in 1952. Mrs. William Reeves and an assistant had a Brownie and a Girl Scout troop in Angola in 1954.

The crowning experience of every Camp Fire girl's year is camping. The first gypsying of Angola Camp Fire members was a three-day bus trip through the corners of Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio; the girls cooking outdoor meals and sleeping on the hay in barns, by prearrangement with rela-

tives or friends. This adventure, in 1925, was chap-eroned by Mrs. Woods and Miss Harrison.

Since then groups have camped at Lake James, at Coldwater and Crooked Lakes in cottages, and, for a week in each of four summers, they camped on the high north shore of Lake Gage, living in tents of their own raising, making their own sanitary facilities, and observing camp-routine and inspections. Mrs. Woods and Mrs. Purdy were group guardians during those four years.

But not all camp-time is spent in work,—camping is "for fun." Swimming instructors were: Cameron Parks, Clive Wert, and Harold Haley, and each year girls passed the American Red Cross junior life savers' swimming tests. They hiked, built various types of fires, and made camp utensils from natural material at hand.

In August, 1948, Camp Rainbow, on county owned land at Crooked Lake, was sufficiently completed to be used for one week each by Camp Fire Girls and Boy Scouts. The lodge, housing the kitchen and dining room, was built by the Moose Lodge and Angola Post No. 31 of the American Legion. Funds for building four cabins, each housing ten campers, were given by Angola Rotary Club, Lions, Rho Chapter of Psi Iota Xi sorority, and Hamilton Lions' Club. The Moose Lodge gave money for the purchase of army surplus bunks and bedding, and funds from many small gifts put down a well, and wired the buildings for electricity. Harry Cook, of Angola Boy Scouts, was the moving spirit whose untiring enthusiasm, as well as manual labor, kept donors interested and work progressing.

The name Camp Rainbow, suggested by Miss Mildred Mathiew, was chosen in a competition sponsored by the Steuben Printing Company. Miss Mathiew also solicited and collected cooking utensils, towels, games, and suitable books for camp.

During that first week at Camp Rainbow the little Blue Birds camped for two days, the Camp Fire girls for three, and Horizon Club sisters for two days. Mrs. Eldon (Opal) Andrew prepared wholesome meals, and mothers or older sisters assisted her as counselors.

The next year, in 1949, Miss Helen Freeman of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was secured to direct camp during the last two weeks of July. Miss Freeman had several years of experience as camper, counselor, and director of Camp Keewano-Wohelo on Lake Michigan. Consequently the local council and camp board, as well as the girls, learn-

ed much from her. Mrs. William (Edith) Kunkle reigned in the kitchen and kept the girls well fed and happy. Under the instruction of Bonnie Kessler (now Mrs. Gerald Bassett), the following girls passed the first or "Polliwog" swimming test: Maria Aranguren, Diana Blanchard, Jane Brokaw, Sharon Conner, Shirley Cotner, Donna Crone, Mary Ellen Hollenbaugh, Sharon Kelley, Barbara Marshall, Burdena Nichols, June Priest, Beth Selman, Joan Ulmer, Janet Umbaugh, Betty Weiss, Cynthia Willis, and Sharon Woodward. Five girls: Renata Beghtel, Suzanne Caris, Kay Creel, Sharon F. Hefty, and Janice Ruth passed the "Frog" or Red Cross junior life savers' tests. Miss Parsell conducted handicraft and nature study periods during each day of 1948, 1949, and 1950 camps.

At Camp Rainbow in July 1950, Mrs. Robert (Jean) Miller of Middlebury was camp director. Her youth, small stature, and friendliness won the affection of the girls immediately. Another loved member of the camp staff was Mrs. Ed. (Martha) Vachon of Pleasant Lake, who served as camp "Cookie" for three successive summers. Miss Kessler again was swimming instructor. Sharon Clark, Rosalie Harmon, Jane Jack, Phyllis McEnterfer, and Barbara Rondot passed "Polliwog"; and Jean Begin, Judy Braman, Pat Druckamiller, Patty Essenberg, Mary Ann Fast, Judy Healy, Joan Hudgins, Georgiana Jensen, Margaret Pentico, Dorothy Robbins, and Maxine Spangle passed the "Frog" swimming tests.

In 1951 Miss Helen Cartwell, of Middlebury, directed camp. In 1952 Mrs. Miller returned, and in 1953 and 1954 Camp Fire camping was in the capable hands of Miss Edith Griswold of the Plymouth, Indiana, public schools. In 1953 Mrs. Myra Ewing of Auburn cooked for camp, and in 1954 Mrs. Richard (Velma) Forbes prepared delicious and nourishing food. Mrs. Bassett supervised the swimming periods in 1951, Mrs. Mearl (Barbara) Blough in 1952, and Mrs. Howard (Mary) Feldman in 1953 and 1954.

Religious services are held in the ceremonial bowl at Camp Rainbow each Sunday morning, but if the girls or their parents prefer, they are taken to their respective churches. Each camp period closes with an open house, parents' night, pot-luck supper, and a ceremonial fire at which time-earned ranks and honors are awarded.

Camp Fire in Angola is proud of its record of thirty periods of summer camping, with no illness

more serious than a twinge of homesickness at twilight, and no casualty worse than Mrs. Kunkle's thumb which the chipmunk nibbled during her nap at rest hour.

In 1952 the Angola Council of Camp Fire Girls was the recipient of a generous bequest from Mrs. F. B. Humphreys, who had been interested in the organization from its beginning. Five hundred dollars from this legacy, and a like amount given by the Boy Scouts, was turned over to the Camp Rainbow governing board. The members of this board, as well as the young campers, are justly proud of the improvements installed since 1952. Built-in counters and cabinets have replaced the rickety table and kitchen cupboard. A deep well with electric pump supplies water to the double sink in the kitchen and smaller sink in the dining room. Water is heated and cooking is done by gas, an electric refrigerator has been permanently installed, and the building recoated with preservative oil. Money given by Rho Chapter of Psi Iota Xi, Angola service clubs, and by individual donors, is building and will have completed, modern and adequate toilets, before the 1955 camping opens. Many men have given of their means, supplies, and equipment, but special mention should be made of the zeal in promotion of the project shown by Harold Stevens, Harry Cook, Albert Cramer, Jack Croxton, and Richard Gentry, who have served as chairmen of Camp Rainbow's governing board. Max Spangle, Wayne Swift, Herschel Clark, and many other husbands of guardians or fathers of Camp Fire girls or Boy Scouts have given generously of time and labor.

Many men and women, not parents of Blue Birds, Camp Fire, or Horizon Club members, have been zealous workers in the Angola Council of Camp Fire Girls or have been enthusiastic counselors at camp. Among these good citizens are Mrs. C. R. Bratton, Mrs. Harry (Dorothy) Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Deller, Mr. and Mrs. Barton Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. Merle D. Tucker, Mrs. Harold Harman, Mrs. James Bryan, Mrs. Hazel Metz, Mrs. R. D. Hosack, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Erwin, Mayor Glen S. Beatty, Mr. E. J. Ries, Mrs. Lucille Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Cramer, Mrs. Robert Spangle, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Clark, Mrs. Carl Weiss, and the Misses Eloise Willis, LaVerne Hardy, Wilma Harman, Marian Cole, Kay Williamson, Phyllis Bishop, Yvonne Humphreys, Ilene Nelson, Mary Jane Goss, Beverly Miller, and Mary Ann Moore.



As Camp Fire continues to progress in Angola more and more parents, as well as girls, are impressed and attracted to its many-sided activities. The girls write and stage plays and pageants, learn Camp Fire songs, dances and ceremonial rituals, earn honors in cooking, sewing, child care, first aid, home nursing, gardening, art, music, nature and bird lore, care of pets, dancing, photography, and in a hundred or more fascinating ways. Ask any Camp Fire girl. Each May they plan and carry out, in every detail of decoration, program, and refreshments, a party or tea for their mothers.

In February 1954, some sixty-four girls invited their fathers to a Valentine Party. Fathers who thought they had outgrown all such fun square danced with all the hilarity and exuberance of their erstwhile youth. The fathers demanded a repeat performance in February 1955, and while they were the honored guests of their daughters, many mothers made up an appreciative audience.

As evidence of paternal interest thirty-five men met recently, with Fred Crawl as chairman, to consider how they can best serve the interests and welfare of the Camp Fire Girls organization in Angola.

Rho Chapter of Psi Iota Xi sorority has sponsored Camp Fire since the Council was chartered in May, 1948. Besides financial aid, the sorority has been helpful in securing leaders for Blue Birds, and guardians for Camp Fire groups. Mrs. Jack (Virginia) Croxton, a member of Psi Iota Xi is, in 1955, the energetic and efficient chairman of the committee on Extension in the Angola Council of Camp Fire Girls.

At the beginning of 1955 one hundred and eighty-five Angola girls with fifteen leaders have paid dues and are registered at national Camp Fire Girls' headquarters in New York. There are nine groups of happy girls in the Camp Fire family in Angola. Mrs. John (Julie) VanAman assisted by Mrs. Ralph (Pat) Martin, and Mrs. Edward (Erdine) Gavin assisted by Mrs. Max (Gloria) Spangle, are leading the forty-four new little Blue Birds in second grade. Two groups of third grade Blue Birds are led by Mrs. Jack (Marjorie) Green and Mrs. Max (Maxine) Wyatt, aided by Mrs. William (Helen) Myers and Mrs. John (Bertha) Gravely. Twenty fourth-grade Blue Birds are led by Mrs. Fred (Joan) Smith, assisted by Mrs. Burnell (Garry) Caswell and Mrs. Howard (Carrie) Ratekin. Fifth graders have become Camp Fire girls in CHESK-CHA-MAY (all friends) group. Their

guardian, assistant, and sponsor are Mrs. Fred (Florence) Crawl, Mrs. Richard (Velma) Forbes, and Mrs. Paul (Burnell) Melby. The sixth grade O-KI-ZU-KO-DA (to be united friends) group is guided by Mrs. David (Kay) Benne and Mrs. James (Nadee) Bright, and is sponsored by Mrs. Lewis (Wanda) Maxton, Mrs. James (Virginia) Siegle, and Mrs. Robert (Virginia) Somerlott. TANDA (to love and respect) group of seventh graders, recently under the guardianship of Betty Servis (now Mrs. Clell Arthurs), is being led by Mrs. C. Reed (Mary) Bright, guardian, with Mrs. George N. (Betty) Meyer and Mrs. Ronald (Winifred) Owens, sponsors.

Mrs. Herbert (Catherine) Berning and Mrs. Howard (Mary) Feldman are guardians of WI-CA-KA (faithful) group of eighth graders, with Mrs. Lief (Ida) Steenerson and Mrs. Paul (Mary) Burns as their sponsors. Angola High School has a fine organization of Y-Teens in which senior high school girls find worthwhile interests and activities. For this reason the Angola Camp Fire Council has not encouraged a Horizon Club in recent years.

The present (1955) officers for the Angola Council of Camp Fire Girls are: President, Mrs. Raymond (Carma) Griffith; Vice-president, Mrs. Max (Gloria) Spangle; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Herschel (Betty) Clark; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. C. Reed (Mary) Bright, and Treasurer, Mr. George Deming. Chairmen of committees who comprise the administrative board are: Leader Training, Mrs. T. R. Law; extension, Mrs. Jack Croxton; Public Relations and Community Service, Mrs. Stefan (Ann) Slanina; Camp, Mrs. Herschel Clark; and Finance, Fred Crawl. Mrs. C. Reed Bright is president of the Angola Leaders (Camp Fire) Association. Mrs. Barton Arnold represents Angola Council of Camp Fire Girls in Regional Conference, the Region comprising the states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

The Camp Fire national and local program is flexible, being improved constantly to meet the needs of unfolding girlhood and young womanhood in a changing world. As it has always been, Camp Fire's purpose is to give service to all girlhood, never to exploit girls for the gain or promotion of the organization.

So, Camp Fire in Angola grows and progresses, true to its watch-word—WO-HE-LO—Work, Health and Love.

### History of Angola Y-teen Club

(Y-teen was formerly Girl Reserves)

The Girl Reserve Club, which is a branch of the National Young Women's Christian Association (Y. W. C. A.) for girls of high school age, was organized in Angola High school under the supervision of Kathryn DeWees (now Mrs. David Hughes) in the school year of 1926-27. The other sponsors were Mrs. Zora Estrich, Mrs. Russell Green, Margaret Gillett Reppard, Mrs. Ella Shank and Mrs. Omar Foster, and Vera Myers. These ladies composed the first adult council. Bonnie Myers (Van Wagner) was the first president.

The club has lived through and continued to grow during these 28 years. In 1930, Vera Myers became the Chief sponsor and continued in that capacity for 18 years. She is now an honorary member of the adult council, as is Eunice Reed, who has been a sponsor for 25 years. Miss Ruby Shultz has been a loyal sponsor for 22 years.

The term—Y-teen—was officially adopted in 1947 by the Y. W. C. A., as Girl Reserves were and are teenage girls of Y. W. C. A.

The purpose of Y-teen is to help a girl develop spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially. Each phase of this development is carried out in programs and parties during the year.

Annual district conferences of Noble, LaGrange, DeKalb, and Steuben counties have been inspiring and have helped to create friendliness among girls of various schools.

Each summer one, two, or three girls are privileged to attend a state conference which is a "summer camp" experience and is conducted by trained leaders in Y. W. C. A.

"To find and give the best is our purpose true; earnest, honest, and our slogan—to face life squarely, too" is repeated in unison to close all regular meetings. It really sums up the ideals for which Y-teens and their sponsors are striving.

Other sponsors through the years have been: Mrs. Floyd Faulkerson, Emily Waugh Harman, Mrs. Carl Casebeer, Emma Mae Copeland Homer, Wilma Ale Smith, Mrs. Mary Kiess, Mrs. Norman Damlos, Thelma Yeager Pekary, Mrs. Marie Goodrich, Mrs. Mack Fisher, Mrs. Laura Nelson, Mrs. Hazel Myers, Jeanette Yeager McClure, Laura Bachman, Mrs. Helen Stevens, Lily Kohl Estrich, Mary Lippincott Crandall, Mrs. Kathryn Sutton, Mrs. Irene Zeis, Mrs. Barbara Kindig, Mrs. Hermon Phillips, Mrs. Ralph Redding, Mrs. Howard

Boomershine, Mrs. Gretchen Briggs, Mrs. Patricia Remier, Mrs. Charles Rodebaugh, Mrs. Jerry Moore, Mrs. Nancy Newnam, Miss Laura Frank, Mrs. Clarence Baker, Mrs. Russell Jackson, Mrs. Wendell Jarrard, Miss Gladys Leas, Mrs. Theodore Crain, and Mrs. Theodore Wood.

Many thanks are due to these mothers and teachers who have given hours of advice, patience, and participation to this very popular organization. I am sure each would say, "It was a very pleasant and gratifying experience." Miss Laura Frank is the chief-advisor this year.

The present president is Judy Healy. The past presidents were: Bonnie Myers, Maxine Stafford, Mary Louise Wisman, Ruth Guilford, Elaine Estrich, Gwen Davies, Margaret Miller, Emily Ruth Croxton, Opal Blackburn, Mary K. Orwig, Gale Carver, Beth Brown, Calista Creel, Norma Hull, Miriam Simpson, Dolores Nelson, Norma Jean Preston, Shirley Erbe, Beverly Stevens, Patricia Ritter, Patricia Harman, Ilene Nelson, Jean Anstett, Arlene McClellan, Jerrie Shank, Jo DeRosa, Sharon Lampman, and Sandra Barkdull.

These capable leaders with the hundreds of other girls as officers and regular members have carried on Y.W.C.A. ideals and activities for 28 years, and I am sure the many girls to follow will keep Y-teen a bright, living organization.

Mrs. Zora Estrich served as an active advisor from the beginning of the organization until her death in 1946. She deserves much credit for her "pioneer" work and diligent efforts, and loving help to the Girl Reserves.



### The Conservation Clubs of Steuben County

By Floyd W. DeLancey

#### Angola Conservation Club

The Angola Conservation Club was organized in 1930 under the name of Angola Rod and Gun Club.

The charter members were: Lee Hirsch, Jim Keckler, Carl Ingalls, Howard Deller, Joe Thobe, Mack Fisher, "Sparky" Webb, and Fred Zimmerman.



In 1932 the name was changed to Angola Conservation Club and the dues were \$1.00.

The first project was fish rearing ponds at Nevada Mills, built by W. P. A. labor under the supervision of "Puzzel" Munger.

The second project was to acquire the site for the fish hatchery which is still in operation on the late Frank Adams farm south of Fox Lake. This was handled by the City of Angola for the club, and a twenty-five year lease was drawn up in 1935.

Mayor W. F. Shearer and the council body, composed of Ronald Owens, Herman Kohl, Burton Handy, B. B. Goodale, S. F. Aldrich, signed the lease.

A club house was erected on land leased around the old John Booth Lake west of Angola, in 1953, under the presidency of Russell Ryan.

The club now has a membership of two hundred, with dues of \$3.00 per year.

The present officers (1954) are:

Floyd DeLancey—President  
 Ronald Rose—Vice President  
 Warren Care—Secretary-Treasurer  
 Steven Horn—Delegate to County Council  
 M. E. Tuttle—Trustee  
 Frank Thomas—Trustee  
 Russell Ryan—Trustee

#### **Hamilton Fish and Game Club**

The Hamilton Fish and Game Club was organized April 5, 1934.

The officers have been as follows: 1934, Harry Wolff, President; Chas. Tingle, Vice President; Otis Hamman, Custodian; W. J. Barnes, Secretary-Treasurer; Howard Dean and Floyd Clark, directors for one year; Chas. Metcalf and Ora Dirr, Directors for two years; Floyd Clark, County Representative.

Fish ponds were built in 1935, but in 1942 the rearing of fish was changed to a natural pond on Chas. Oberlin's farm.

New fish were placed in Hamilton as follows: 1935, 50,000 Red Ear Sun fish and 11,000 Blue Gills; 1936, 23,950 Blue Gills; 1937, 44,000 Blue Gills and 2,070 Black Bass; 1938, 7,500 German Brown Trout and 700 Bass; and in 1939, 35,000 Blue Gills and 8,000 Black Bass.

The Club received \$500.00 from the State for rearing these fish.

Pheasant and Quail were first raised in 1926. The number of Pheasants and Quail raised are as fol-

lows: 1938, 40 Pheasants and 63 Quail; and 1939, 57 Pheasants.

A new 5 H. P. electric motor was bought for the hatchery in 1945 but burned up in the fall of that year.

No records are available from the fall of 1945 to 1949, but two meetings were held in 1949.

#### **Metz Conservation Club**

The Metz Conservation Club was organized February 21, 1940, at the school house.

The project was to raise Pheasants and build a rearing pond on the Fred Berlien farm.

At the first meeting the following officers were elected:

President—Jud Gilbert  
 Secretary—Morris Kenter  
 Treasurer—Sylvester Gilbert  
 Representative—Fred Goudy  
 Custodian of the spears was Glen Barron.

Directors:

Clayton Weiss  
 Kenneth Noragon  
 Melvin Harter  
 Marshall Robinett  
 Hugh Gilbert  
 M. E. Walker  
 Lester Barron

The state was represented by warden Herb Menzenberger and Grim Tevis.

The last election was in 1950 and the following were voted into office:

President—Ray Musser  
 Vice President—Basil Hoyer  
 Secretary—Harvey Lechleidner  
 Representative—Harry Means

#### **Salem Center Fish and Game Club**

The first meeting was held March 4, 1940, in the K-P Hall at Salem.

There were thirty-two members present. Herb Menzenberger, Grim Tevis, and J. F. Kerrick of the State Conservation Department assisted in the organization. Dan Parker was organizing chairman. The meetings were set for the first Monday of each month.

The officers were:

Ned Emerson—President  
 Dan Parker—Secretary-Treasurer  
 V. E. Shumaker—County Representative  
 Kenneth Tubbs—County Representative

The first project was a fish pond on Wayne Strawser's farm in 1941. The project in 1952 and 1953 was the fire house and department.

The officers at present (1954) are:

Jack Boyer—President

Ed Weimer—Vice President

Lawrence Milleman—Secretary

Claude Phillip—Delegate

The meetings are held at the fire house in Salem.

#### **Scott Center Conservation Club**

The Scott Center Conservation Club was organized in the spring of 1954 by a group of farmers and teachers.

The main project was to encourage conservation among the students and younger people of the community. The first project was to raise Pheasants.

The officers are:

President—Herschel Everetts

Vice President—Orla Myers

Club delegate—Fred Wills

#### **Pleasant Lake Conservation Club**

The first meeting was called in January 1940, at the high school. Milton Whysong, of the state department, was organizer. There were thirty-five charter members present.

Orson Renner was the first President and Howard Duguid was elected first secretary.

The first project was a rearing pond on the Pit Lake grounds, followed by raising pheasants, then construction of larger fish rearing ponds on the Walter Ward farm.

The club has always been very active all these years and they now have a store building in Pleasant Lake which is the club house for meetings and social activities. They also own a plot of ground on Long Lake that is for public access to the lake and for camping.

The present officers are:

President—Ross Lacey

Secretary—Donald Johnson

Delegate—Harry Smith

#### **Orland Conservation Club**

The Orland Conservation Club was organized in December, 1937, by a group of sportsmen who had been building the Fish Hatchery. The first board of directors was composed as follows: Carl Strauss, Lyston Keyes, Alton Willms, Wier Staf-

ford, Fred Booth, Clyde Lewis, Almond Starrett, Clint Rowley, and Carl Cary.

The first officers were: President, Ford Throop; Vice President, Chas. Helme; Secretary, C. D. Ernsberger; Club Representative, Carl Cary. The original membership was one hundred seven.

The hatchery was developed to such an extent that it was given to the state which has developed it into the largest Fish Hatchery in the State.

The present officers are: President, Chas. Benhower; Vice President, Frank Friend; Secretary-Treasurer, Lloyd Buchanan; Delegate, Fred Cline; and the present directors are: Fred Zimmerman, Lincoln Booth, Fred Booth, and Carl Cary.

#### **North East Conservation Club**

On Wednesday, March 28, 1934, eighty-five citizens of Fremont, Snow Lake, Lake George, Clear Lake and the surrounding community gathered at the American Legion Hall at Fremont to organize a Fish and Game Club. Milt Whysong outlined the needs of an organization of sportsmen to look after the stocking of our lakes and the taking out of predatory fish.

The first officers were: President, Dr. B. F. Chapin; Vice President, J. W. Heller; Secretary-Treasurer, Chas. Gleason; Club Representative, Dr. B. A. Blosser.

There were thirty-seven charter members. Some of the first directors were: Herb Menzenberger, Roy Davis, T. P. Riddle, Frank Federspiel, Glen Forrester, William Whaley, Wilber Hodson, and Grover Collins.

The present officers are: President, Elmer Higbie; Secretary, Arthur Schaeffer; Treasurer, L. Munn; Representative, Ray Cline.

#### **Jackson Township Conservation Club**

The first officers of the Jackson Township Conservation Club were: President, Glen Oberlin; Vice President, Ralph Dailey; Secretary, Ray Denman; Delegate, William Gochenaur.

The first meeting was held at the Oberlin Garage in 1938. Milt Whysong, Herb Menzenberger, and Captain Hank Walker of the department helped to organize the club.

They bought a building in Flint in 1940 when the membership was two hundred-fifty. The club built a fish pond on the William Gochenaur farm and raised pheasants.

The present officers: President—Milo Link, Secretary—Arthur Holden.



### **Crooked Lake Sportsman's Club**

There was a meeting of neighbors at the home of Elmer Manock for the purpose of organizing a club. At a meeting two weeks later at the home of Earl Ormiston officers were elected for 1949. The club was incorporated as a non-profit organization. In the summer of 1953 they bought two lots and a small building on the north shore of the lake. An addition to the building was added in the spring of 1954.

The organization took place on January 12, 1949. The charter members were: Robert Carper, Weir Crain, Clyde Derbyshire, Freeman Earhart, Ralph Garrison, Elmer Manock, Moe Mitzman, Earl Ormiston, Robert Spangle, Arthur Smith, Hans Clausen, and Woody Ormiston.

Officers 1949: Weir Crain, President; Ralph Garrison, Vice President; Elmer Manock, Secretary; Woody Ormiston, Treasurer; Trustees, Clyde Derbyshire, Robert Carper, Earl Ormiston, Hans Clausen; Delegate to County Council, Ralph Garrison.

Officers 1950: Ralph Garrison, President; Chas. Hamilton, Vice President; Arthur Smith, Secretary; Earl Brant, Treasurer; Trustees, Weir Crain, Freeman Earhart, Robert Carper, Clyde Derbyshire; Delegate to County Council, Freeman Earhart, Alternate, Walter Hollinger.

Officers 1951: Chas. Hamilton, President; Robert Carper, Vice President; Jack Tippy, Secretary; Hans Clausen, Treasurer; Trustees, Weir Crain, Harry Klink, Jo Crisman, Freeman Earhart; Delegate to County Council, Walter Hollinger; Alternate, Freeman Earhart.

Officers 1952: Robert Carper, President; J. G. Crisman, Vice President; Walter Hollinger, Secretary; Hans Clausen, Treasurer; Trustees, Chas. Hamilton, Earl Brant, J. G. Crisman, Freeman Earhart; Delegate to County Council, Walter Hollinger; Alternate, L. C. Reed.

Officers 1953: J. G. Crisman, President; L. C. Reed, Vice President; Walter Hollinger, Secretary; Ralph Garrison, Treasurer; Trustees, Chas. Hamilton, John H. Miller, Weir Crain, Earl Brant; Delegate to County Council, Chas. Hamilton; Alternate, L. C. Reed.

Officers 1954: Ralph Doty, President; Freeman Earhart, Vice President; Walter Hollinger, Secretary; Ralph Garrison, Treasurer; Trustees, Chas. H. Teders, John H. Miller, Chas. Hamilton, Weir

Crain; Delegate to County Council, Freeman Earhart; Alternate, Walter Hollinger.

### **Kiwanis Clubs of Steuben County**

*By Robert King*

The Angola Kiwanis Club was organized April 29, 1954, under the sponsorship of the Ashley Kiwanis Club. The first officers elected were as follows: G. Kenneth Hubbard, President; Roger Commager, Vice-president; C. B. Wood, Secretary; and Ross Wilkinson, Treasurer. Directors: Jack Johnson, Russell Ryan, Glen Maxwell, Lorin B. Krueger, Ted Hughes, Donald J. Rhoads, and Albert MacRae.

Charter night was held June 23, 1954, at the Angola Christian Church. In addition to the officers, the following were charter members: Paul Blackburn, Duane Blanchard, Charles Buse, Burnell O. Caswell, Joe H. Crouch, Jim Eyster, Robert V. Ferris, Howard Fruchey, Ralph Garrison, Douglas Halverson, Harold Harman, Keith Haynes, Walter Honett, G. Kenneth Hubbard, Jr., Robert E. King, Elmer Manock, Judson Morris, Robert Osborne, Frank Rose, James Rust, Glen Short, Ralph Stefan, Clyde Stewart, Ralph Thobe, Charles Tilbrook, John Weirch, Bill Zuber, and David Yarian.

The outstanding service the club rendered during 1954 was during the outbreak of poliomyelitis in August. Funds were raised for the purchase of a fogging machine and the entire county was sprayed; the cost of the machine and spraying being nearly \$2500. The machine was then turned over to the firemen for use throughout the county. The club worked with the County Polio Organization on the Emergency Fund Drive, helping raise a total of approximately \$9000 to aid those stricken with the dread disease.

The Kiwanis motto, "We Build" has been shown in their aid to underprivileged children, as well as their efforts to keep the city clean by providing trash cans on the square.

Officers elected for 1955 are: G. Kenneth Hubbard, President; C. B. Wood, Vice-President; Harold Harman, Secretary; and Jack Johnson, Treasurer. The club has a total membership of fifty, as of Jan. 1, 1955.

Another feat was accomplished in 1954 by organizing a new club in Fremont, which received its charter November 10, 1954.

The Fremont Club has elected the following officers to serve during the 1954 and 1955 years: George Snyder, President; Ernest Pence, Vice-president; Robert McMurray, Treasurer; and Richard Brown, Secretary. Board of Directors: E. C. Bingaman, William Dellinger, H. W. Eckman, Perry Gay, Mark Kaufman, Howard McDaniel, and Gordon Stroh. Others who were charter members are Dale Abbott, Richard Bingaman, Clair Duncan, Harold Ferguson, Oscar Fisher, Robert Fisher, Walter Forbes, William Frahm, Rollo Gary, Wilbur Hardy, William Kelly, William Keyes, Robert Knisley, Ford McNaughton, Lovell Moeller, Basil Mundy, Donald Palmerton, Charles Peel, Oliver Petre, and Arthur Schaeffer.

While only organized a few months, Fremont Kiwanians have been hard at work. Hats and rain coats have been purchased for the safety patrols. Funds have been raised by sponsoring a benefit pancake supper for a local polio victim and many other plans are in process.

Editor's Note: The first Kiwanis Club to be organized in the United States was at San Francisco, California, in 1915.



## Steuben County Lions Clubs

*By Harold Ransburg*

The first Lions Club of Steuben County was organized in Angola, Indiana, on February 14, 1929, by Mr. H. D. Chapel. At that time it was comprised of thirty members. The first officers elected were as follows: President, Mr. Walfred Lindstrom, Secretary, Mr. Harvey Shoup, and Treasurer, Mr. F. O. Watkins. This year (1954) the Angola Lions Club celebrated the 25th anniversary of its Charter.

The Club meets each Wednesday night at 6:30 P. M. except in the months of July and August when there are no meetings held. They held their first meeting in the Hotel Hendry.

A family picnic is held each summer and for many years these meetings were held on the beautiful grounds of the late Judge Carlin Residence on E. Maumee Street. Lion Rolland Weaver holds

a perfect attendance record since joining the Club 21 years ago. Lion Darrel Walter has had a perfect attendance record for the past 11 years.

New officers elected for the year 1954-1955 are as follows: President, G. Wendell Jacob; 1st Vice President, Floyd McCutchan; 2nd Vice President, Hugh C. Harman; 3rd vice president, George Anstett; Secretary, Richard Snook; Treasurer, Donald L. Fulton; Lion Tamer, William Bodley; Tail Twister, Robert Berkes; Directors, Richard O. Booth, Robert Laird, Dr. Robert F. Barton, Billy Sunday.

Mr. Harvey Shoup, a faithful member of the Angola Lions, was secretary of that organization for 21 years consecutively, being elected at the start of the Club in 1929 and resigning in 1951.

The club has been active in many ways throughout the years, participating in various drives and campaigns, for the good of the County. They have made regular donations to the local Chapter of the American Red Cross, The Steuben County TB Association, The Salvation Army, The March of Dimes, and many other organizations. The Club has been especially interested in the Steuben County Boy Scouts. On many occasions it has come through with cash donations. In 1948 funds were furnished to build a bunk house at their Rainbow Camp at Crooked Lake.

Every year in cooperation with the American Legion, the club has selected and paid the expenses to send one local boy to the Indiana Boys' State at Indianapolis. It has also been interested in School Children's safety. In 1933 it sponsored a troop of 16 patrols equipped with police belts to guard the street crossings in front of the school. Since that time it has made donations to renew equipment as needed.

During the lean years the members have distributed baskets of food, clothing, and toys to local needy families.

Sight conservation and blindness has particularly interested the Club. Angola Lions have paid for eye examinations and have furnished glasses to needy cases in the county. They have also furnished special scotchlite canes to the few blind persons in the county.

Basketball, Band Uniforms, and the Teen-Canteen have been helped also. These are just a few of the past activities and projects in which the Lions Clubs have helped. Current big project is the constant improvement of the Steuben County



Park Beach at Crooked Lake. At the time the project was started, the beach was small. The shoreline was covered with weeds and brush, and the road approach was very bad, but the natural sandy shoreline indicated the great possibilities for this location. The Lions began to raise funds during the summer of 1948. In the Spring of 1948, contracts were let to build a bath house complete with toilet facilities. Additional space was allotted to provide a store for refreshments and lunch service. A second story was added for the living quarters of the caretaker. The cost was over \$4,000.00.

Much work was done by the members themselves, and a lot of hard work it was. The swimming beach was extended approximately 300 feet. In the early summer of 1954, the improvement continued and more grading was done. The shore along the beach was covered by a thick layer of fine sand, making an ideal area in which the children can play.

This County Park beach has now become one of the finest in northeastern Indiana. The swimming beach extends 400 feet along the shore. Picnic tables have been provided in the shady areas. Many thanks to all the loyal Lions who have helped. At this time (1954) there are 76 members.

#### Past Presidents

Walfred Lindstrom	1929-30
Clayton H. Elliott	1930-31
Willis K. Batchelet	1931-32
John W. Hostetler	1932-33
Corneal Bratton	1933-34
Ray Alwood	1934-35
Guy J. Shaughniss	1935-36
Dudley Gentry	1936-37
Eugene Maloy	1937-38
Noah E. Smith	1938-39
Roy Reppard	1939-40
Don H. Cole	1940-41
S. F. Aldrich	1941-42
Jo R. Bakstad	1942-43
Wm. P. Booth	1943-44
Harris W. Hubbard	1944-45
Ray D. Hosack	1945-46
J. Glen Radcliffe	1946-47
Harold H. Stevens	1947-48
Everett Dixon	1948-49
Darrel D. Walter	1949-50
John F. Williamson	1950-51
Karl L. Goss	1951-52
Barton Arnold	1952-53

#### Deceased Members

Roy Bledsoe, Sr.	John W. Hostetler
Clyde C. Carlin	Harold Hughes
Milo Certain	Walfred Lindstrom
Don Cole	Harley J. Mann, Sr.
Claude H. Douglas	Luther Ott
L. L. Eberhart	S. D. Rouls
S. S. Frazier	Guy Shaughniss
D. W. Gentry	C.C. Sherrard

#### Pleasant Lake Lions Club

The second Lions Club to be organized in Steuben County was started in Pleasant Lake, Indiana, on May 12, 1930. Paul E. Bennett was President, Shirley Gilbert 1st Vice President, Dr. G. N. Lake 2nd Vice President, Coral Straw, 3rd Vice President, Orlie W. Fee, Secretary, and Worthy Tuttle, Treasurer. Their first meeting was held in the basement of the Bank Building. Charter Night was held on June 6, 1930.

At the time Pleasant Lake Lions organized, the Club consisted of 30 members. The Club was sponsored by the Angola Lions Club.

There were 22 Charter members, of whom 12 are still living. The deceased are as follows: Frank Gilbert, Arthur F. Ruhl, Orla Fee, Russell Hevel, George N. Lake, Clair Tuttle, Cal Anderson, John O. Matson, D. C. Ransburg, and Shirley Gilbert. Six of the living members are still active and are as follows: Coral Straw, Gerald N. Fuller, Lee V. Grim, W. E. Libey, Paul Ransburg, and James Ferris.

The Club has been extremely active in helping to provide food and toys at Christmas time for the needy, glasses for school children whose parents are unable to pay for same. In December of 1933, the Club began furnishing Christmas treats for the children of the community and has continued to do so to the present time. They have provided Diphtheria Immunization and purchased additional school ground.

In August of 1935 they held their Centennial Celebration which was attended the first day by 3000 and the second day by 4000.

Through the years the Club has been engaged in many worthwhile projects such as aiding the High School Band with finances, purchasing TB Bonds, supporting the USO during war time and helping in many local activities. In 1944 they purchased a movie machine for use in School, the Churches, and the Community. In 1946 they com-

pleted a Public Bathing Beach on the North side of Pleasant Lake, and in 1947 sponsored the first Red Cross Swimming Class held there. In 1948 they sponsored the Mobile X-Ray for the Township.

The Club has been active in helping on drives and campaigns such as Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc. Their Pancake Supper is an annual event, and Ladies' night is once a year with the Ladies holding various offices and furnishing the program for that night.

In 1949 the Club sponsored a Loan plan, which would provide \$6,000.00 for a Doctor's office. This was to be paid back by the Doctor. The office was completed the same year.

The Pleasant Lake Lions held their first Minstrel Show in the year of 1931, and many have been put on since with much success. This is an annual affair and 1953 was considered their finest with a very large attendance. This year (1954) they helped finance the new Pleasant Lake Athletic Field and also a boat for the use of the Pleasant Lake Fire Department.

Herewith is a list of the Past Presidents: Paul Bennett, Wade Libey, James Ferris, George N. Lake, Arthur F. Ruhl, Frank G. Gilbert, John Matson, Orla W. Fee, Shirley Gilbert, Gerald N. Fuller, Harold Ransburg, Russell Hevel, Coral E. Straw, Lee V. Grim, V. Ormsby Lyons, Cecil E. Lepley, Clarence Chrysler, Dale B. Crow, Orville J. Griffith, Carl Becker, Clarence Brooks, John Glasgow, and Don Swift.

#### **Ashley-Hudson Lions Club**

In the summer of 1934 Mr. Paul L. Snyder conceived the idea that a Lions Club would be a good idea for the community of Ashley-Hudson. Mr. Snyder was operating the Lumber Yard in Hudson at the time. He had come there several years previously from Garrett, where he had been a member of the Garrett Lions Club, thus knowing the value to a community of such an organization. So in cooperation with several civic minded men from both Ashley and Hudson, he set out to organize the Ashley-Hudson Lions Club. Some of the men who aided him most in this work were Charles Schwietzer, Clyde Deetz, Carl Swank, Paul Strock, Roy Hammond, Orval Bair, and L. W. Bonbrake.

There was much doubt and skepticism that a Club combining the efforts of the two towns could be successfully organized. However, by the summer of 1935, the Club had its quota of members

and was ready to receive its Charter. By then the community of Helmer had been included in the project and several faithful members from there and Turkey-Creek have belonged to the Club ever since its organization. On June 13, 1935, the Ashley-Hudson Lions Club was presented with its Charter at a formal ceremony held in the Ashley Town Hall. Almost 200 Lions and their Ladies from surrounding towns and cities were in attendance. The Clubs represented were Mishawaka, Marion, Fort Wayne, Garrett, Auburn, Waterloo, Pleasant Lake, South Whitley, Topeka, and Kendallville. Pleasant Lake was the sponsoring Lions Club and final arrangements and details of the Charter ceremony were worked out by Mr. George Bormuth, district secretary.

The Toastmaster for the evening was Frank Gilbert of Pleasant Lake, and Rev. A. H. Sholty of the same Club gave the invocation. The program included community singing and music by the Wagoner Family of Old Time Fiddlers. The Charter was presented by W. W. French of Mishawaka, District Governor. The Charter was accepted by Paul Snyder, president of the new Club, who spoke briefly and predicted that much good would come to Ashley-Hudson as a result of the Club.

The following, along with President Snyder, were the First Officers and Charter members of the Club; 1st Vice President, Clyde Deetz; Second Vice President, Carl J. Swank; 3rd Vice, Dr. B. A. Tracy; Secretary, Paul Strock; Treasurer, Roy Hammond; Lion Tamer, Fred Frederick; Tail Twister, Joe Clark; Directors: Otto Hovarter, Gay Brown, Dr. R. D. Denman, and Earl Deeter; other members, Dr. R. K. Ameter, Orval Bair, L. W. Bonbrake, L. D. Mortorff, Glen L. Myers, Marion Clark, Carl Delucaney, H. T. Judson, Forrest Miller, Lloyd H. Myers, Charles Schwietzer, and Levi C. Shaffer.

During the past nineteen years the Ashley-Hudson Club has carried out many worthwhile projects for the community, which include among other things the sponsoring of a Boy Scout Troop and helping to organize the Tri-County Little League Baseball Team and the Tri-County Pony Baseball League. It has sponsored three teams in each league, one each from Ashley, Hudson, and Helmer. White canes for the blind have been provided by this organization and it has purchased many pairs of glasses for needy children. It has also financed several cases of surgery, and each year Christmas baskets are distributed among the



needy. The club gave a very liberal donation of \$600.00 to the State Cancer Control Fund, a state-wide Lions project. During World War Two it made a substantial contribution to the Overseas Relief Drive, and it also aided in the War Bond Drives. The Lions Club was instrumental in securing automatic Railroad Signal Crossing Lights for the Wabash Crossings at Ashley, Hudson, and Helmer, and it has greatly aided in securing needed road improvements in the community. In 1948 the Ashley-Hudson Lions Club sponsored a Club at Orland.

Various ways and means of raising funds and money for its numerous projects have been employed by the Club, including Home Talent Plays, Amateur shows, Drawings, Scrap Drives, Donkey Basketball, and Girls' Basketball games, Pancake suppers and fish fries. Last but by no means least was the community broom sale in which over 500 brooms were sold. This was a two way project in that the brooms sold were made by the blind, thus aiding those so handicapped and the profits netted were used to meet the expenses of the Little League and Pony Baseball teams.

Since the Club's inception, 86 men of the Community have belonged at one time or another, and during this time the following active members have been lost through death: Dr. B. A. Tracy, Todd Gary, Harvey T. Judson, Forrest Miller, Levi Shaffer, Nathan Stoops, Frank Morr, Asa Glasgow, Spencer Ringler, and Maurice Hovarter. The last named, died while serving in the Air Corp of the U. S. Army during World War Two. He was taken prisoner in the Philippines, and after surviving the Bataan Death March, died May 14, 1943, in Mukden, Manchuria, in a Japanese Prisoner of War Camp. Besides Charter President Snyder, the following Lions are past Presidents: Clyde Deetz, L. W. Bonbrake, Paul Strock, Worthy Stroman, Carl Swank, Gerald Seagly, George Sherwood, Harold Arney, Robert Stingle, Asa Glasgow, Fred Frederick, Max Smathers, Glen Myers, Robert Sparks, George Milks, Marshall Dole, and Harold Swank. The Club has its meeting place in the Ashley Community Building on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month.

At the present time there are 25 members and the Officers are: Kenneth Kistler, President; Orval Bair, 1st Vice; Dale Wilhelm, 2nd Vice; Paul Strock, Secretary; Otis Kempf, Treasurer; Robert Stingle, Lion Tamer; Dawson Fifer, Tail Twister; Directors, Everett Penick, Ira Bright, and Fred

Frederick. The other members include Harry Anderson, Harold Arney, L. W. Bonbrake, Lawrence Chorpensing, Dr. Robert D. Denman, Marshall Dole, Jennings Luttmann, George Milks, Glen L. Myers, Robert McKee, Verl Pike, Charles Schwietzer, Paul Snyder, Harold Swank, and Worthy Stroman.

### Hamilton Lions Club

The fourth Lions Club of Steuben County was organized by George W. Bormuth, at Hamilton, Indiana, June 29, 1939, and was sponsored by the Waterloo Lions. The first President was Dale Waterhouse; Secretary, Robert Watkins, and the Treasurer was Russell Taylor. The Club comprised 26 Charter members. They are as follows; Bryant Baxter, Victor Bergman, Ben Courtney, Rudy Foglesong, Donald Gnagy, Girt Gnagy, Charles Hanes, Ora Kaiser, Ford Kepler, Chas. Lingle, Clyde Rohleder, Leon Sanxter, Roy Schall, Rev. L. B. Sharp, James Shrider, Max Shrider, Paul Swift, Oscar Taylor, Russell Taylor, George Todd, Robert Watkins, Roscoe Watkins, Dale Waterhouse, Homer Waterhouse, Harry Wolff, Chas. Wright.

The Club has been instrumental in promoting many worthwhile projects and activities. Listed here are some in which they have participated. Formed School Patrol in 1939, and in 1944 they furnished a recreation room for Service men. In 1948 warning lights were installed at Railroad Crossings. The Little League was provided with Baseball Suits in 1951. In 1952 the Lions Club paid for a directory on the Town and Lake. In the year of 1953, water fountains and trash cans were placed in the Business District.

The main project of this, and all Lions Clubs, is the conservation of sight. They furnish glasses and operations for children and adults, who cannot afford it themselves. Better than \$1,000.00 has been spent on this worthwhile cause.

Another worthy project was the furnishing of a cabin at Camp Rainbow, at a cost of \$350.00.

At the present time there are 39 members, of whom Andrew Ensiedel is President, Wesley Lindahl, Secretary, and Harry Oberlin, Treasurer.

The past presidents are: Dale Waterhouse, Arnold Fee, Shirley Teegardin, Russell Taylor, Harry Wolff, Dallas Ferguson, Robert Watkins, Roy Schall, Donald Sutton, Robert Morley, Robert Hanes, Gerald Everetts, Leo Radcliff, Ray Hicks.

Deceased members are: Charles Hanes, Roscoe Watkins, Glen Mathers, Girt Gnagy, Leon Oberlin, James Beecher, Leon Sanxter, Russell Taylor.

### Orland Lions Club

The Orland Lions Club was organized on February 4th, 1948 by the Ashley-Hudson Lions Club. There were 44 charter members who are listed below:

Veryl G. McKibben	Samuel H. Whitcomb
Clyde A. Stewart	Albert Graham
Henry L. Ernsberger	Carl Foltz
Clyde A. Rholeder	Glen Graham
Lamont Nilson	Walter Busick
Craig L. Brown	Vernon C. Berry
A. B. Collins	John Dunwiddie
Monroe Butler	Elmer J. Moffett
Clyde Lewis	Milton Seehawer
Paul F. Jurt	Elmo Wells
Fred M. Barley	Hiram T. Lewis
Guy Penix	John E. Storer
P. W. McKibben	George Rinkle
Floyd E. Carpenter	Gordon Jacob
Robert Twitchell	Allison F. Stayner
Hubert M. Cline	Emery E. Spade
Ronald H. Merriman	Floyd Linendoll
Owen Norton	Floyd A. Smaltz
Robert Ernsberger	Wm. H. Evans
John R. Emerick	W. J. Larimer
Jyle E. Millikan	Ernest B. Young
Hermit Penix	Roscoe Munger

The first President was Veryl McKibben. The Secretary was L. G. Bryant. The second year the Club President was Henry Ernsberger and the Secretary was Baker Bryant. The officers for 1950-51 were Lamont Nilson, President, and Fred Barley, Secretary. The year 1951-52 was under the direction of Gordon Jacob, President, and Fred Barley, Secretary. The 1952-53 officers were; Dale Grabill, President, and Fred Barley, Secretary. The officers for 1953-54 were Lester Girton, President, and Merle Grabill, Secretary. The new officers for the current year 1954-55 are James Butler, President, and Merle Grabill, Secretary.

The Officers for 1954-55 are as follows:

President	James Butler
1st Vice President	Henry Spangle
2nd Vice President	Wendell Van Wagner
3rd Vice President	Wm. Sanders
Secretary	Merle Grabill
Treasurer	Monroe Butler

Deceased Members are:

Floyd Linendoll  
Craig L. Brown

The Club has put on several plays, a Golden Glove Boxing Match, a broom sale, and held several trap shoots for fund raising activities. The Club has also sponsored the Orland Boy Scout troop, and made donations to many Civic Organizations.

### Loyal Order of Moose

*By Harold Fisher*

Loyal Order of Moose, Angola Lodge No. 1568, was instituted August 14, 1914, above the rooms now occupied by Van's Sport Shop on West Maumee Street.

With a Charter list of about 125 members they soon outgrew these quarters and moved to the rooms over the Hamma Feed and Supply Store. In 1925, their membership increasing, they purchased and remodeled the fine lodge home which they now occupy, their membership to date being nearly 600. This fine growth was, and is, inspired by a group of men (now numbering 1,000,000) who sponsor and maintain Mooseheart, one of the finest of homes for dependent children of departed members. This institution is located just north of Aurora, Illinois. Here at Mooseheart each child is given a high school education and, since they teach more than 30 different crafts, when a graduate from this outstanding school goes into the world to earn his own living he is well equipped for the life he may choose. We have seen more than 1,000 children graduated from Mooseheart, and there is always a waiting list for those who have learned a trade. They may, through scholarships arranged for them by the members, procure a college education.

Moose Lodge has had a part in the establishment and maintenance of Moosehaven in Florida, a home for aged members. Here all wants are attended, and here contentment reigns.

Civic projects at home have been of the best, and never has there been a worthwhile project entered upon which Moose Lodge has not backed one hundred per cent, whether it be manpower or financial aid which was needed.

The year ahead appears to be a bright one for membership growth in the Moose Lodge through-



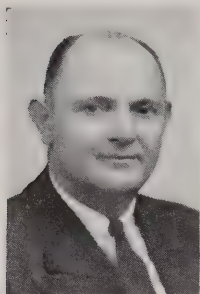
out the entire English-speaking world. People have come to realize that membership offers to a man \$20,000 protection for each member of his family. No fraternal organization has more to offer.

The Loyal Order of Moose is truly the Family Fraternity. "One for all and all for one."

### Pokagon Shrine Club

*By James G. Baker*

The Pokagon Shrine Club was formed in 1946 for the purpose of getting better acquainted with the fellow members of the Shrine in Steuben County while being beneficial to the community to which we belong; meeting monthly at a specified place, and having a better social and business relation to each other



The Pokagon Shrine Club was started by several Shrine members talking together, who, seeing the need for a Club, decided to ask all known members of the Shrine to meet at the Lake James Country Club for a meeting and dinner. The meeting was called to order and the possibilities of having a Club were discussed. The Ambassadors for Mizpah Temple were asked to talk this over with the officers of the Temple.

The Ambassadors, Melvin Kratz, and James Baker, had a meeting with the members of the Divan, Potentate George W. Miller, Edward Greer, Kenneth Matchette, and Secretary J. Henry Curdes, and a Charter was issued on June 14th, 1946, to James G. Baker, Melvin Kratz, Willis Batchelet, and others to organize a Club in Steuben County by the name of Pokagon Shrine Club, under the jurisdiction of Mizpah Temple.

A hand made Charter was made by the pen of Daddy Wing and was presented to the Club as the first issued in this form and having the honor of being made by a fellow member, then more than eighty years old, and believed to be the only one made by him. A photostatic copy is on display at both the Lake James Country Club and the Captain's Cabin. The original is in the hands of the Secretary of the Shrine Club and is presented each year to the new officers.

The first meeting under the Charter was held at the Lake James Country Club and about sixteen members were present, and officers were elected for the year 1946. The officers elected were: James

G. Baker, President; Melvin Kratz, Vice President; and Charles Pilliod, Secretary and Treasurer. It was decided at this meeting to hold the Charter open for the next year and all new members affiliating with the Club would receive a certificate and become a Charter member of Pokagon Shrine Club.

The Pokagon Shrine Club has grown to a membership of over seventy-five, and is known throughout Indiana and many parts of the United States for its many achievements. It was the first Club to entertain the Nobles and their families in the jurisdiction of Mizpah Temple, to a day's outing at Lake James. A Flotilla of forty odd boats was assembled and motorized. A raft large enough to carry the Mizpah Band cruised the Lake some twelve miles around the shore line. This spectacular event was enjoyed by several thousand on the shores as well as those who were in the Flotilla. All Shriners and their families could have a boat ride free of charge through the courtesy of Pokagon Shrine Club and George Meyer, then at the Meyers Boat Livery.

It is an annual affair to have a Stag party including a Fish or Shrimp fry, fishing, boating, golf, music, and contests that bring many of the Nobles together. Also, the annual "Christmas Formal" has become one of the most elaborate parties held in Steuben County.

The Pokagon Shrine Club has secured for public appearances in Steuben County, The Mizpah Temple Band and Patrol, both uniformed bodies, and at special events the Chanters and the Potentates' "Little Symphony" were enjoyed very much by those who saw and heard them.

The Pokagon Shrine Club maintains a wheel chair for public use, and has helped several adults and children in the County, always standing ready to do its part. They ask no praise or publicity, but enjoy their host of friends and associations.

The past presidents of the Club since 1946 are as follows:

James G. Baker	1946
Melvin Kratz	1947
Harcourt Sheets	1948
Hermon Phillips	1949
Ben Gordon	1950
Earl Sharrow	1951
John H. Johnson	1952
George Meyer	1953
R. Wendell Jarrard	1954

There is a group within the Pokagon Shrine Club known as the "Pokagon Indians" organized by Hermon Phillips. The Pokagon Indians are known country wide for their presentation to the Imperial Potentate of the Shrine on his visitation at Mizpah Temple in Fort Wayne in 1952. The ceremony was the "Broken Arrow" and during the presentation the Imperial Potentate was presented a silver tipped and engraved arrow which was received with great pleasure, and was talked about on his visitation throughout the United States. Each member of the Pokagon Indians in the pageant was presented a scroll signed by the Imperial Potentate, and was given a membership in his home Shrine Club. An article regarding the presentation was in the National Shrine magazine, and was received by every Shriner in the United States. The Indians have presented their programs at Shrine Ceremonials and many special events, featuring Indian presentations. The costumes are very attractive and colorful, having been made by individual members, with the beading and designs being so different it adds to their attractiveness.

Several children from this area have been taken to the Annual Shrine Circus by the Pokagon Shrine Club, and many other programs have also been sponsored by the club, receiving wholehearted co-operation and support from the Steuben County people.

Following is an entire list of members.

#### Present Members

Alderson, Virgil	Chaddick, Don
Allen, J. Wesley	Clark, Harold
Alwood, Pat	Clevenger, Le Roy
Aldrich, Wendell	Cline, Dean
Bailey, Al	Close, Le Roy
Baker, James	Cook, Don
Barton, Dr. Robert	Crum, Dr. M. M.
Bassett, Ollie	Campbell, Dale
Batchelet, Willis	Commager, Roger
Bearman, L. H.	Damlos, Norm
Bennett, Fred L.	Emerson, K. C.
Blackburn, Paul	Ensign, Floyd
Boardman, George	Fisher, J. Mack
Boyd, Emery	Foutz, L. V.
Brant, E. L.	Feaser, Eugene
Brokaw, Austin	Gavin, Edward
Bryan, James	Gaffin, Jack
Bryan, Wiley	Gordon, Ben
Cameron, Dr. Don	Hubbard, Harris W.

Hadley, Ralph  
 Harding, George  
 Haynes, Lloyd H.  
 Healy, B. L.  
 Heath, A. D.  
 Hirsch, Lee  
 Holtzman, Clark  
 Hubbard, Kenneth  
 Hughes, Ted  
 Haynes, Keith M.  
 Holabird, Wm. D.  
 Jarrard, Bill  
 Johnson, John  
 Kammen, Fred J.  
 Kelsey, Harry  
 Kissinger, Dr. Knight  
 Klink, Harry  
 Kolb, Joe  
 Kratz, Melvin  
 Laird, Bob W.  
 Lamoreaux, Robert  
 Linn, James  
 Liechty, Harry H.  
 Martin, Ralph  
 Maxton, Lewis  
 McBride, John  
 McClintic, George  
 Meyer, George N.  
 Morgan, Elbin  
 Morse, Phil  
 Phelan, Bruce  
 Phillips, Hermon  
 Pilliod, G.  
 Priest, Chas. E. Jr.  
 Randolph, Creed H.  
 Ratekin, Howard  
 Rausch, Dr. Norman  
 Romero, L. P.  
 Rose, Frank  
 Rodebaugh, Charles  
 Rhoads, D. J.

Sapp, L. G.  
 Sassman, Alfred  
 Seely, Wayland  
 Sellgren, Ed.  
 Sharrow, Earl  
 Sharrow, Robert  
 Sheets, Charles R.  
 Sheets, Harcourt  
 Southern, Charles  
 Swift, Bradley  
 Strock, Don  
 Strock, Carl  
 Tuttle, M. E.  
 Walsh, Kenneth  
 Wallace, L. K.  
 Waller, James  
 Watkins, Frank  
 Watkins, J.  
 Watkins, Lyle  
 Webb, Fred W.  
 Wicoff, Angus  
 Williamson, Jim  
 Willis, Henry  
 Wuest, Karl  
 Byrer, Ron  
 Cloppert, Ralph  
 Curdes, J. Henry  
 Day, Robert L.  
 Gardner, Dr. L. B.  
 Hanna, John  
 Havens, Paul M.  
 Johnson, Kenneth  
 Liggitt, Virgil  
 Miller, Carl E.  
 Riethmiller, H. F.  
 Sayer, Doctor  
 Southern, Paul  
 Smith, Byard H.  
 Thomas, Edwin  
 Widney, Meril W.  
 Wilkening, R. R.

#### Former Members

Basse, K.	Schieber, Wayne
Dehaven, Frank	Riner, Clarence
Drake, W. C.	Palfreyman, D. (dec.)
Erwin, David	Lemley, Wm. (dec.)
Herr, Don (dec.)	Brown, Harlow (dec.)
Hines, Joe	Beatty, Glen
Loomis, Harold H.	Jensen, Walter
Woods, H. A. (dec.)	Schrader, Carl (dec.)



Matchette, Kenneth  
Morse, Bud  
Webb, Jack  
Greer, Ed (dec.)  
Nauah, John

Ford, Ed  
Schroeder, Carl L.  
Kolb, Ed (dec.)  
Pilliod, Charles (dec.)



## History of Angola Rotary Club

*By Melvin W. Kratz*

The more than 8,300 service clubs organized under the official title of Rotary International and enrolling a membership of nearly 400,000 business men in eighty-nine countries of the World, began in Chicago, Illinois, on February 23, 1905, as an outgrowth of the idea of Paul P. Harris, a young lawyer who gathered together in a spirit of friendship and understanding, a group of men, each of whom was engaged in a different form of service to the public.

A peculiar feature of the new organization was the admission of only one member from each line of business or profession, and the name "Rotary" developed from the fact that the meetings were held in rotation in their places of business. Soon the idea of meeting at luncheon time suggested itself as a time conservative factor. The purpose of the organization was to develop an opportunity of friendship and understanding among the members. The new organization had a steady growth locally and attracted the interest of visitors to the community.

In 1908, a club was organized in San Francisco, and in 1910 the sixteen clubs then in existence formed the National Association of Rotary clubs. In 1911 a club was organized in Winnipeg and one in Ireland, and a year later the official title of the organization was changed to the International Association of Rotary Clubs, which was later abbreviated to Rotary International.

In 1913 a relative visiting in the home of Harvey W. Morley in Angola related enthusiastically the activities of the Rotary club of Toledo, Ohio. Impressed with the usefulness of such an organization in his home town, Harvey invited in to luncheon at Hotel Hendry, two friends, Melvin W. Kratz and

Lawrence N. Klink, and imparted to them the purposes of the organization. The three men then planned to develop a similar club, and thus were the founders of a club which six years later united with the International Association of Rotary Clubs. They invited into the club two new members each week, and it ultimately attained a roll of forty-six leading business and professional men of Angola.

The club, from its origin, was known as the Angola Rotary Club and served well in its early years in fostering many worthy community projects, being at the time the only organized force for community service. During the first world war it initiated the organization of the Red Cross, and its members headed other allied war objectives, including the County Council of Defense, the Food and Fuel Administrations, the promotion of the sale of Liberty Bonds, and contacts with soldiers who went away from the community for military service.

In 1916 the club invited as its luncheon speaker, Allen D. Albert, a former president of the International Association of Rotary Clubs, who came to Angola for an appearance on the chautauqua program. Mr. Albert was somewhat puzzled when he was unable to find the Angola club listed in the directory of clubs then in existence. He reported to headquarters the existence of the club and recommended its consideration for admission to the International Association, although at that time the directors of the parent organization did not look with approval upon the formation of clubs in as small a town as Angola with its 2,600 population, holding that it would require a community of larger population to maintain a sufficient number of different businesses to supply the membership needed for a going club.

However, the central office requested Bert J. Griswold, of Fort Wayne, an enthusiastic Rotarian, to make an investigation and his report corroborated the report of Mr. Albert. A formal petition for admittance into the International Association of Rotary clubs was prepared, but after thorough discussion in the local club, membership at that time was thought to be unwise because it was thought that some of the existing members would have to be dropped because of the vocational classification features required by the International Association. The club was notified that it would be required to discontinue the name of the Angola

Rotary Club, although the appellation still hung around.

Two years later in June, 1919, the club, under the guidance of Mr. Griswold, made application to the International Association. This application was granted and a charter was issued to the Angola Rotary Club, number 524, Eleventh District, on August 1, 1919. The list of forty-three charter members and their classifications are as follows:

Beatty, Clinton E.	Bakery
Bogan, William	Manager, Hotel Hendry
Brokaw, Joe E.	Moving Picture
Bryan, Harold	Veterinarian
Casebeer, Carl A.	Auto Salesman
Carpenter, Royal	Cashier, Steuben County Bank
Creel, Thos. J.	Physician
Crocker, Sidney W.	Manager, Swenson Evaporator Co.
Croxton, John A.	Live Stock Buyer
Croxton, Emmett S.	President, First National Bank
Dunn, Edward J.	Manager, Indiana Utilities Co.
Elston, Alva E.	Owner, Elston Shoe Store
Emerson, Fred A.	Public Official
Gay, Frank E.	Automobiles
Goodwin, Elijah A.	Farmer
Helme, William A.	Auto Supplies
Hetzler, E. Marion	Monuments
Humfreys, John	Clergyman
Jackson, Frank E.	Owner, Notion Store
Junod, Amos	Grocer
Klink, Lawrence N.	Undertaker
Kelly, Harry	Manager, Linder Coal Company
Kemery, Ernest D.	Furniture
Kratz, Melvin W.	Druggist
Love, Willis W.	Cigar Manufacturer
Mast, John	Meat Market
Martin, Jay A.	Ice Dealer
Morley, Harvey W.	Editor, Angola Herald
Menzenberger, Herbert	Owner 5 & 10c Store
Owens, Thomas	Wholesale Produce
Parker, Thomas A.	Agricultural Expert
Rowley, Frank B.	Implement Dealer
Sheets, Charles	Wholesale Oils
Smith, Ora E.	Grocery Salesman
Spade, Edwin E.	Owner Angola Ice Cream Company

Starr, Fred M.	Treasurer, Tri-State College
Stiefel, Leopold C.	Dry Goods
Williamson, Edward W.	Owner Williamson Hardware Company
Willis, Raymond E.	Publisher, Steuben Republican
Wolfe, Samuel	Dentist
Wood, Alphonso C.	Attorney
Sevison, Luther J.	Manager, Sevison Magneto Co.

Harvey W. Morley served as president for the six years of the preliminary Rotary organization. The officers chosen for the first year after affiliation were: Harvey W. Morley, president; E. Marion Hetzler, secretary; Lawrence N. Klink, treasurer and sergeant-at-arms; Melvin W. Kratz, Thomas Owens, and Thomas J. Creel, additional directors.

The new affiliation in no wise impeded the service activities of the Angola Club. Projects were established for the promotion of modern highways, for the development of a Chamber of Commerce, which established Pokagon State Park, promotion of the advantages of Steuben County as a vacation center.

The club's activities for the aid of underprivileged and handicapped children, included the subscription, in which every member joined, of \$1,000.00 for the erection of the Riley Hospital Convalescent Home. During the presidency of Willis W. Love, a very successful children's clinic gave substantial encouragement and aid to handicapped youngsters. Christmas visits and Christmas presents to children in underprivileged homes in the community became an established project, all of which functioned before the public supported welfare movement was established.

In more recent years the club has joined one hundred percent in a contribution to the Rotary Foundation Fund, established to commemorate Paul Harris' work, which provides fellowships for the education of capable students in institutions in other lands as a method of creating better international understanding. It also established a local fund for the financial aid of worthy young people in practical projects.

The loyalty of the club members has been noteworthy. In one year there were thirty-five 100% meetings. One member had a record of thirty-three years of unbroken attendance. Several more



had more than a score of years of regular attendance.

The Angola Club sponsored two other clubs—at Butler in 1938, and at LaGrange in 1947. In 1938 it sponsored the District Assembly at Lake James.

The local club has supplied leadership in Rotary International through two men, Raymond E. Willis and Hermon Phillips, who have been Governors of the District in which the Angola club was included. Several have served as Group Representatives: Fred M. Starr; Raymond E. Willis; Edward D. Willis; Lee Hirsch; Harry N. Klink, and L. G. Sapp.

In community activities, seven members have served as Mayors of Angola; two as college presidents; one as a representative in Congress; one as United States Senator; one as a Judge of the Indiana Appellate Court; two as members of the State Legislature; three as superintendent of the Angola Schools, and several in other public positions in the county and city.

The following have served as presidents:

1919—H. W. Morley	1937—Chas. Rodebaugh
1920—H. W. Morley	1938—Lee Hirsch
1921—F. M. Starr	1939—Merle Tucker
1922—Sam Colliver	1940—Larry Wolfe
1923—Wm. F. Shearer	1941—Wendell Jarrard
1924—A. C. Wood	1942—Preston Moody
1925—W. W. Love	1943—Russell Handy
1926—R. E. Willis	1944—Jas. Williamson
1927—Clint Beatty	1945—Glen Beatty
1928—John Estrich	1946—Harry Klink
1929—G. O. Simpson	1947—Fred Smith
1930—L. N. Klink	1948—Hermon Phillips
1931—M. W. Kratz	1949—Howard Boomer-
1932—I. E. King	shine
1933—Orville Stevens	1950—Ben Gordon
1934—E. D. Willis	1951—Earl Sharrow
1935—Theodore Wood	1952—Henry Willis
1936—Herman Kohl	1953—Mel Wild

The officers for the year 1954-55 are:

Dr. Robert Kolb, President  
Leland Nedele, Vice President  
Richard Wilder, Secretary  
John McBride, Treasurer.

The list of members as of November 1, 1954, is as follows:

Anderson, Bruce C.	Dentistry
Bailey, Alfred W.	Mgr. Auto and Aircraft Parts Plant
Baker, James G.	Trailer Sales
Beatty, Glen	Senior Active
Bledsoe, Wilbur	Lake Resort
Boomershine, Howard	Supt. Schools
Boyd, Emery	Land Development
Brokaw, Austin	Theater
Brokaw, Robert	Abstracts
Casebeer, Carl A.	Senior Active
Clark, Lyle	Garage & Truck Service
Cline, Dean	Photography
Covell, Cary E.	Farm Equipment
Croxton, Jack	Senior Active
Crum, Dr. Marion	Physician and Surgeon
Douglass, Joe	Auto Parts—Distributing
Erbe, Roscoe	Electronic Parts Mfg.
Essenberg, Jerold	5c to \$1.00 Store
Estrich, John	Senior Active
Gecowets, Gerold	Petroleum Products— Retail
Gordon, Ben	Drugs—Retail
Hackett, Glenn	Motor Transportation
Hershey, Major Gen. Lewis B.	Honorary
Hickman, Dr. Frank	Honorary
Hirsch, Lee	Retail Wallpaper and Paint
Hornbacker, Vern	Veterinarian
Jackson, Russell	Case Mfg. Co.
Jarrard, Wendell	Men's Clothing—Retail
Jordan, David	Woolens Mfg.
King, Irvin	Furniture—Senior Ac- tive
Klink, Harry	Mortician
Kohl, Herman	Building Material—Sen- ior Active
Kolb, Dr. Robert	Chiropodist
Kratz, Melvin W.	Past Service
Krein, Harold	Restaurants
McBride, Clyde J.	Past Service
McBride, John Clyde	Dry Cleaning
Melby, Paul F.	Auto Accessories—Retail
Meyer, George	Outboard Motors—Sen- ior Active
Miller, Bob	General Merchandise— Retailing
Moody, Preston J.	Muck Crop Farming

Morley, Harvey W.	Editor—Angola Herald
Munn, J. B.	Books—Retailing
Nedele, Robert	Tobacco—Wholesale
Newnam, Kenneth C.	Education—College
Peat, William	Life Insurance
Pence, Oscar	Food Catering
Phillips, Hermon E.	Senior Active
Pilliod, Gillis	Insurance
Pontius, Rev. Myron L.	Honorary
Priest, Charles	Life Insurance
Ratekin, Howard	Evaporated Milk
Rodebaugh, Charles	Carbonated Beverages— Bottling
Roth, Norwell	Lumber Retail
Sanxter, Kay	Furniture Retailing— 2nd Active
Sapp, Rev. L. G.	Christianity—Protestant- ism
Sassman, Alfred S.	Petroleum Products
Sellgren, Edwin W.	Plumbing
Sharrow, Earl	Frozen Food Lockers
Sheets, Charles	Gas and Oil Dist.—2nd Active
Sheets, Harcourt	Gas and Oil Dist.
Skove, Charles	Auto Parts Mfg.
Smith, Fred E.	Gift Shop
Southern, Charles D.	Electronics — Manufac- turers Representative
Stevens, Orville	Abstractor—Senior Ac- tive
Strock, Frank	Grain Dealer—Senior Active
VanAman, John	Sporting Goods—Retail
Whitman, Knight	Real Estate
Wild, Melvin	Car Dealer—Retail
Wilder, Richard	Furniture-Retailing
Williamson, Edward, Jr.	Home Builder
Williamson, James	Hardware—Retail—Sen- ior Active
Willis, Edward D.	Newspaper Publishing Senior Active
Willis, Henry	Newspaper Publishing
Willis, Raymond	Past Service
Wilson, Dean	Dairy Products—Retail
Wilson, Herman	Commissioned Agent
Wolfe, Samuel C.	Dentistry—Senior Active

The Angola Rotary Club has been identified as number 524 in Districts number 11, 20, 155, and at present 224.



## Sorosis

By Mrs. Edward Williamson,  
Sr.

This fine tribute to the founders of Sorosis was taken from an editorial that appeared in the Steuben Republican of February 14, 1940.

"When one watches the development of a community from year to year, one is impressed by the fact that the material building of a community is not, in the long run, an expression of the advancement of community interests, so much as the institutions which have come out of the best thought and the yearnings for intellectual and spiritual advancement.

"This week the people of Angola, whether or not they are members of the organization, are joining in the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the organization of the Sorosis Circle.

"Every good movement, however, is usually the projection of the thought of some individual. It is a very happy circumstance that the originator of the idea has lived to see fifty years of worthy effort along this line.

"To Mrs. Ori Nyce the community can extend its full share of thanks. If Mrs. Nyce had made no further contribution to our community life than the organization of Sorosis, her years would have been well spent, but she has only to consider this as one of the many useful services she has performed for the community.

"The community congratulates also the other three, still living, charter members, who are honored on this golden occasion, Mrs. Leona Patterson, Mrs. Elizabeth Sheldon and Mrs. Winfred Waugh."

Sorosis Circle, Angola's first women's club and one of the first in this section of Indiana was organized in February, 1890, and consisted of thirteen members. They were called together by Mrs. Nyce and met in her home. Miss Katherine Woodhull was the first president. These ladies continued to meet in the homes of the members for cultural and intellectual improvement. For eight years they continued to meet in the homes of the several members. Then, in 1899, they met in the Elk's Club Rooms. Later they had their own club room in



rooms above the Carver Drug Store, which is now the "Eat" restaurant. Next they moved to rooms over the Angola Bakery, on the south side of the square. In 1913 they moved to their present location in the Alwood building. Sorosis started the first public library in Angola, with many books contributed by the members. The first library consisted of 1400 volumes. The Angola Library of today is an outgrowth of the thought promoted by Sorosis. Sorosis maintained their library many years before the public took over the responsibility. Sorosis did develop a desire for many good things in the community. The members have been influential in promoting every worthy cause. Sorosis was district federated in 1925, and county federated in 1926.

In February of this year, 1954, Sorosis celebrated its 64th Anniversary. There are very few communities which can boast of a literary organization which has continued so long a time, and Angola has a right to be proud of the record of Sorosis.

The charter members of Sorosis are as follows: Katherine Woodhull, Winifred Gale, Nora Leas, Etta L. Miller, May Carver, Stella Kunkle, Lena Dawson, Elizabeth Shaw, Josephine Moss, Sarah Morse, Ori Nyce, Mate Williams, May Weicht, Mary Jackson, and Minnie McCray.

The active members are: Elizabeth Arnold, Pauline Barkdull, Pauline Batchelet, Helen Buse, Garry Caswell, Dolores Christoffel, Marian Clark, Grace Crain, Emma Druckamiller, Josie Ellingwood, Marguerite Elliott, Johanna Essenberg, Lily Estrich, Maude Fisher, Hazel Gilbert, Jeanette Hamma, Agnes Harman, Veva Hickman, Helen Hockey, Cora Holland, Blanche Hosack, Ina Hubbell, Retha James, Cora Keckler, Mary Kiess, Hazel Kirk, Ethel Koch, Alma Lucas, Mildred McFayden, Louise Maloy, Beulah Martin, Dorothy Martin, Alice Meyers, Dorothy Newnam, Thelma Nilson, Arlene Parsell, Cleota Pfingstag, Stella Pike, Miriam Ramsay, Judith Rathburn, Linda Richardson, Ellen Rodebaugh, Edith Rose, Lorena Bush, Loretta Sanders, Emily Sapp, Lillian Selgren, Ruby Shultz, Ann Slanina, Juanita Teegardin, Mabel Travis, Oleva Watkins, Lois Weiss, Medise Weldon, Olive Willis, and Ann Willis.

The associate members are: Mildred Bakstad, Nora Brokaw, Pearl Brown, Jessie Clark, Lucille Emerson, Gladys Everett, Bernice Faulkerson, Georgia Fox, Clara Frazier, Gula Freeman, Clela

Luse, Daisy McAllister, Doris McBride, Nora McClew, Esther Sanders, Olive Waller, and Alice Wilder.

The non-resident members are: Ethel Allman, Vera Beckholt, Harriet Brooks, Elsie Covell Budnik, Charlotte Colliver, Elsie Davies, Sarah Fisher, Estelle Harshman, Nellie Harpham, Margaret Hoke, Jeannette Holderness, Maggie Holt, Mary Duckwall Hutchins, Mina Long, Mildred Renner, Hannah Simpson, Esta Smith, Helen Taylor, Susie Whitehouse, and Alice Yeagley.

The honorary members are: Bertha Clawson, Lois K. Marshall, Minnie Robertson.

The following is "In Memoriam" for those members who are deceased: Cary Stiefel, Ida Weaver Brewer, Eula Vandercook Croxton, Estelle Welch Kunkle, Sarah E. Morse, Stella Ellen Hendry, Jennie Gibson Cline, Minnie McCray, Elvira Sniff, Mayme Redding, Josephine Moss, Nellie Caswell, Mary Ritter M.D., Ella Boozer, Ella Mitchell, Mae Morgan, Zora Waller, H. Mae Weicht, Callie Brandeberry, Cora Turley, Sarah Powell, Elizabeth McConnell Sheldon, Edna Creel, Ori C. Nyce, Frances Batchelet, Milla Lane, Mina Sutherland, Zora Estrich, Huldah Kinsey, Sylvia Weir, Winifred Waugh, Allie Truesdell, Luella Rempis, Leona Patterson, Lulu Love, Ella Shank, Ethel Weaver, Ella Covell, Winifred Owens, Mary Perfect, and Florence Carver.

The roster of ex-presidents follows in order of their election, the usual terms of office being for one year: Katherine Woodhull, Ori Nyce, Josephine Moss, Winifred Gale, Alzine Scott, Florence Carver, Lida Leasure, Elizabeth McConnell Sheldon, Mae Weicht, Laura Linder, Milla Lane, Leona Patterson, Mary Perfect, Salena W. Butler, Minnie Robertson, Harriet Trainer, Alice Mathews, Tina Morse, Edna Creel, Sylvia Weir, Elizabeth Dodge, Mary Shearer, Alee Leininger, Harriet Ettinger, Ina Emerson, Ori Nyce, Alice Leininger, Olive Willis, Winifred Waugh, Hulda Kinsey, Cora Turley, Bertha Jarrard, Georgia Fox, Estelle Harshman, Nora McClew, Jessie Clark, Mabel Starr, Zora Estrich, Lina Williams, Callie Brandeberry, Ella Covell, Ella Shank, Ella Boozer, Cora Keckler, Edith Rose, Mary Duckwall Hutchins, Margaret Hoke, Ethel Weaver, Bernice Faulkerson, Hannah Simpson, Ruth King, Clela Luse, Emma Druckamiller, Alice Wilder, Marguerite Elliott, Ina Hubbell, Grace Crain, Blanche Hosack, Irene Handy, Doris McBride, Ruby Shultz, Lois Weiss, Cora Holland, Lorena Roush, and Vera Myers.

## Women's Clubs and Activities

*By Elsta Sheets*

### Steuben County Business and Professional Women's Club

At a little Inn overlooking beautiful Lake James in Pokagon State Park, the Steuben County Business and Professional Women's Club was formally organized November 13, 1927.

Miss Marian Ingham of Fort Wayne, the State President, Miss Lillian Marsh, the Executive Chairman of the Twelfth District, and Mrs. Susan Simminger, President of the Fort Wayne Club, accompanied by other members of their club, attended the dinner and assisted in the organization. There were about thirty charter members.

The new officers elected by the Steuben County Business and Professional Women's Club were: President, Berenice Harrison; First Vice President, Lina Williams; Second Vice President, Pearl Hathaway; Recording Secretary, Flossie Kratzer; Corresponding Secretary, Winifred Hathaway; Treasurer, Marian Ewers; Sergeant-At-Arms, Oleva Watkins; Social Committee, Maude Ritter, Anna Woods, and Ethel Stafford.

The object of the club, which is affiliated with the State and National Women's Clubs, is to promote the interests of business and professional women and to bring the members into relationships of mutual helpfulness; and to study political and economic problems and their social implication as to the community, state, nation, and the world, with the thought of betterment throughout.

The Personnel of the club is arranged by the President into eleven standing committees, namely; Membership, Finance, Legislation, Public Affairs, National Security, Radio and Television, International Relations, Education and Vocation, Health and Safety, News Service, and Program Co-ordination.

The club officers plus the chairmen of these committees constitute the Executive Board of the Club. It meets the second Wednesday of each month at a dinner meeting, with a committee chairman and her committee in charge, until each one has served. A program, representative of the committee in charge, and a business meeting follow the dinner.

The Emblem of the Business and Professional Women is:

The Flaming Torch of Wisdom Lighting the Path of the Business Women of the Future.

The Winged Wand of Mercury, ushering in a new era of opportunity for women.

The Ship of Commerce, carrying our message of friendship to women of other lands.

The Open Scroll of Learning; Recording our ideals and our faith since our organization in 1919.

Nike Winged Victory of Somothrace, emblem of womanhood triumphant.

NFBPWC—National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

Endless Circle of Love, symbolic of unbroken harmony in aiming to achieve world-wide unity, security, and lasting peace.

The officers of the Steuben County Business and Professional Women's Club elected for 1954-1955 are: President, Ida Thorp; First Vice President, Kay Wood; Second Vice President, Mina August; Treasurer, Charlotte Luke; Recording Secretary, Rowena Clark; Corresponding Secretary, Mary Burns; Parliamentarian, Cleo Wicuff; Historian, Inez M. Pinchon. The new director for District Three, elected this Spring, is Myrtle Bearman from this club.

Pearl Brennan and Oleva Watkins, two of the charter members, are still members of the present organization.

The club is represented in the county by the following businesses and professions: Owners of hotels, motels, grocery stores, filling stations, dress shops, beauty shops, a kiddie shop, a gift shop, a pharmacist, a court stenographer, county officials, stenographers, secretaries, bookkeepers, beauty operators, a banker, bank tellers, teachers, and nurses.

### Psi Iota Xi Sorority

The County had never had a Sorority when, in 1916, twelve of Angola's girls were accepted by the State Officers of Psi Iota Xi, and a Chapter formed in Angola in September of that year. Charter members included: Elezan Rakestraw, Altina Lane, Barbara Dodge, Martha Pollock, Burton Sickles, Helen Kunkle, Faye Burt, Agnes Pollock, Nora Burt, Rose Waugh, Joyce Creel, and Clara Burt.

Since the primary purpose of the Sorority was to further charitable enterprises, the organization wasn't purely social. Every Chapter supported one



or more charitable causes as their environment demanded—also each chapter contributed to a scholarship for some worthy girl, plus other varied projects, both cultural and intellectual. The first years were filled with determined effort, especially planned to prove Sorority worth to the community, since RHO Chapter was pioneering the first Sorority in Steuben County. Each project bigger than the one before was successfully undertaken. Many more girls were taken in as members and the community encouraged each new project by giving their loyal support in both words and deeds.

On her first Christmas, the Sorority inaugurated the first municipal Christmas Tree. It was placed on the mound on the square where the War Monument now stands. Just as the many colored lights were to be turned on at the beginning of the dedication, a soft light snow began falling, as though the Heavens too, approved and were adding to the Christmas spirit. The Angola Band, and a very fine Band, led by the able conductor, Mr. Fred Richardson, began playing the many beautiful Christmas Carols, that were sung by hundreds of men, women, and children, who had gathered to enjoy and praise the first community Christmas Tree. The Steuben Republican gave special programs they had printed for the occasion and all of the merchants, plus others, donated generously of candy and gifts that were distributed to all of the children there. So, Psi Iota Xi made her real Debut, and took her place as a permanent institution in Angola. She constantly met the calls for food, clothing, money, and war services on the Home Front. As an organization, Psi Iota Xi has served and gained by serving. The girls have enjoyed the opportunity to give of themselves and have been more firmly bound together in moral, social, and intellectual life.

#### Book Review Club

A group of women who enjoyed reading good literature and discussing it conceived the idea of forming a club for that purpose. In February, 1933, on a stormy winter day, they met at the home of Helen Devine to draw up the Constitution and By-Laws of their new organization. The charter members were: Mrs. Charles Pilliod Jr., Helen Devine, Clara Burt, Mrs. M. Allison, Mrs. James Hall, and Mrs. Joe Brokaw. The purpose of their meeting was to have a different member give a

resume of an outstanding book at each meeting. They decided to meet twice a month, the second and fourth Friday afternoons, except in the summertime, at the homes of the various members; there would be no dues; and the hostess at each meeting would serve light refreshments. Mrs. Charles Pilliod, Jr., was elected President, and Mrs. James Hall, Secretary for the first year.

Shortly after its inception, these worthy women felt that they should have a larger membership, since they all knew several women who would enjoy this activity. There have been a few changes since the early days of the club. Membership was increased and is now limited to eighteen. Each program includes a response, a special feature, and a review. Once a year they have "Guest Day," on which each member is entitled to a certain number of guests. It is always a very social occasion with quite an elaborate tea, and is looked upon as one of the outstanding events of the year in this community. There are no special qualifications necessary for membership, but each new member must be voted in by the club. There are several non-resident members now, whose vacancies have been filled, but who are always welcome to come to the meetings when they are in Angola.

#### D.A.R. Chapter

Following a luncheon at Hotel Hendry in Angola, Tuesday, December 17, 1929, the State Regent, Mrs. James B. Crankshaw, formally organized a new D.A.R. Chapter at Angola. Assisted by Mrs. John McFadden of Gary, Indiana, the northern director, and Mrs. E. D. Kemery, the organizing regent. Those belonging to the organization at Fort Wayne and at large, who signified their intention of becoming members, were:

Mrs. Louis Fairfield, joining the D.A.R.	1918
Mrs. Huldah Kinsey	1919
Mrs. Edna Creel	1919
Mrs. Frank B. Humphreys	1919
Mrs. Winifred Waugh	1920
Mrs. Nina Kemery (Regent of local Chapter)	1921

#### The Officers:

Nina Kemery, regent
Mrs. Edna Creel, vice regent
Mrs. Carl Casebeer, recording secretary
Mrs. Sol Tuttle, corresponding secretary
Miss Clara Burt, registrar
Mrs. Winifred Waugh, historian

Besides the officers are the following charter members:

Mrs. Francis Batchelet  
 Mrs. Lucinda Branyan  
 Mrs. Winifred Orton Campbell  
 Mrs. Louis Fairfield  
 Mrs. Effie Harrison of Butler, Indiana  
 Mrs. Ethel Humphreys  
 Mrs. Laura Hopkins  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Sheldon  
 Mrs. Dora Vernier of Butler, Indiana  
 Mrs. Huldah Kinsey

Other guests at the meeting were:

Mrs. Boner, Angola, Indiana  
 Mrs. Talmadge, LaGrange, Indiana  
 Mrs. Ganiard, LaGrange, Indiana  
 Mrs. Truby, LaGrange, Indiana  
 Mrs. F. E. Deal, LaGrange, Indiana

Miss Preston, Mrs. Emmet Croxton, Mrs. W. P. Reader, Miss Esther Morley, Mrs. W. C. Patterson, Mrs. Ella Boozer, Mrs. Harcourt Sheets, all of Angola, Mrs. Fannie Shaffer, Topeka, Kansas, and Mrs. Barnes, a Student Wife.

The Angelica Vrooman Chapter was voted on at the National Board meeting, Feb. 1st., 1930. The name of the Chapter was officially recognized, Feb. 8th., 1930. Chapter granted, December 22nd., 1932. Chapter number 1811. The name was changed to "Pokagon," December, 1935.

### Congregational Guild

A Woman's Society of the Congregational Church was organized about the time the Church was dedicated in 1871, and functioned under the name of Social Society of the Congregational Church, until 1890.

Its aim was to promote sociability and friendliness, in the then small community. Monthly meetings were held in the afternoon at the home of some member, for a social time. Frequently, the gentlemen were invited for an evening meeting. Light refreshments were served and a small collection was taken which in time was used to purchase some much needed article.

The Society drifted along until the Church was remodeled and an annex built to the west side, which made it possible for the organization to expand by having some entertainments and small church suppers. The women had no small part in the development of the membership of the church. Its members began to feel the need of better

Church facilities and began to put forth every effort to help in the undertaking. They held bazaars, suppers, and other entertainments in the old rink. They served banquets, hot lunches, and had exhibits at the county fairs.

In 1890, the Social Society was re-organized and the Congregational Guild was the outcome, with the motto or slogan, "She worketh willingly with her hands," chosen, and has continued to function under that name until this present time. (1954)

A constitution and By-Laws were adopted and the organization took on new life. When the present edifice was dedicated, the Guild had paid for the carpeting and the decorating of the auditorium. The Guild also assumed other obligations. The present edifice was dedicated February 15, 1900. When the Church was dedicated, the basement was only partially excavated. The Guild, to meet their obligations, must have facilities for so doing. The ladies prevailed on Clarence Freeman to oversee the finishing of the basement, and work was begun as early as weather would permit. The basement was finished in early November and was opened to the public with a meat pie supper. On Thanksgiving day, 1900, a Turkey dinner was served to the public. This was the beginning of the popular monthly suppers that have continued throughout the years. The basement has been remodeled twice and enlarged both times, and modern equipment installed. The dining room has a seating capacity of about 100 people. The finishing and furnishings were provided entirely by the Guild and they are exceedingly proud of their efforts. The Guild has worked hard but there was satisfaction in having worked willingly, and we have many joys and pleasures to remember.

### Steuben County Home Economic Club

The Steuben County Home Economic Club was organized in 1928-1929, the purpose being to improve the home and community in which we live.

Mrs. Grace Stroh of Fremont was the first county president. In 1937, according to the records, there were seven clubs and ninety-nine members. In 1938, under the direction of T. M. Grabill, then county agent, six more clubs were organized, making a total of thirteen clubs with a membership of 486. Now we have (1954) fifteen clubs and 585 members.

The Purdue specialist comes three times a year,



giving two lessons each time to Club Leaders who in turn give it back to their Home Club. The Home Demonstration Agent gives two lessons a year and two more, if the club needs them.

Special interest meetings for groups interested, are held in between the Purdue meetings.

One need not be a club member to attend or request this help.

A County Chorus was organized by a group of women who just wanted to sing.

The largest single club in the county is Scott Township, with fifty-seven members.

The first Pleasant Township Club was organized in 1938, with thirty-seven members. There are seven charter members: Rose Andrews, Margie Dotts, Cathilene Gleason, Rita Killinger, Ivaline Magley, Hope Osborn, and Iola Yates. Esther Grabbill was the first president.

### **The Steuben County Hairdressers**

The Steuben County Hairdressers were organized on February 12, 1948. Our present active charter members are: Vera Albright, Fremont, Indiana; Irene Fifer, Hudson, Indiana; Hazel Logan, Montgomery, Michigan; Billie Jo Reese, Angola, Indiana; and Nona Ulmer and Lucille Whitman of Angola, Indiana.

Regular meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month.

The object of this unit, which is affiliated with the State and National group, shall be to foster and promote the best interest of the Hairdressing and Cosmetologists' profession, and to advocate high ideals and standards in the profession.

Activities are mostly education forums, given for the betterment of the profession.

### **Fremont Rebekah Lodge History**

The first Rebekah Lodge in Fremont, Indiana, was Fremont Lodge No. 309, instituted on September 11, 1889. The charter members were: W. W. Wilkson, Michael Fetterhoff, T. B. McNabb, Charles White, D. J. Tillotson, Mrs. G. A. Milnes, Mrs. M. Kinsey, Mrs. M. White, Mrs. W. W. Wilkson, Mrs. M. Fetterhoff.

On December 14, 1923, the lodge was consolidated with Pleasant Rebekah Lodge No. 35 located in Angola, Indiana.

Three years later, another Lodge was again instituted which was the Fremont Rebekah Lodge No. 834, I. O. O. F., the present lodge. The Charter

was granted on August 3, 1926, the installation taking place on August 26, 1926, by Elizabeth Ehrhart, Assembly President. The Charter members of this Lodge were: Paul Gould, Hugh Chester, John L. Dunkle, Glenn Falka, Adah Gould, Marjorie Chester, Jennie Dunkle, Opal Falka, Ida Corey, Arlene Sutton, Kate Knisley, Bessie Parrish, Cora Sattison, Elsie Storey, Mary Fetterhoff, Grace Bressler, Pearle Sailor, Vera Coppes, Lena Swift, Gladys Hankes. Pearle Sailor was the first Noble Grand of the Lodge.

Of the original 20 charter members, three are still members, namely: Jennie Dunkle, Ida Corey, and Gladys Hankes.

The first meetings were held on the third floor of what is known as the Follette Building, now owned by William Enslin.

In the year of 1946, the lodge moved to the second floor of the I. O. O. F. Building, where the meetings are held regularly each month. Fremont Rebekah Lodge No. 834 I. O. O. F. is one of the seven lodges which comprise District No. 28. The Lodge has had the honor of having three District Deputy Presidents for Dist. No. 28, namely: Izora Crandall (deceased), Gladys Mingus, and Roberta Baker.

The membership of the present lodge is 97 members. There are 91 sisters and six brothers. Regular meeting nights are the First and Third Friday night of each month, and with an average attendance of 40 members.

### **American Legion Auxiliary—Fremont**

A temporary American Legion Auxiliary Unit of Cassel Post #257 of Fremont, Indiana, was formed on January 8, 1921. The Charter was read and accepted at a meeting held on February 26, 1921, in the Legion Club Rooms over the First National Bank. Anna M. Wells was elected President, Emma Roberts, Vice President, Opal Smith Falka, Secretary.

Meetings were held on the 4th Friday of each month and later changed to the 4th Thursday, and at the present time are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Meetings were held in the Legion Rooms in the Town Hall, which the Town Board leased to the Legion Post. The meetings are now held at the new Legion Home which is being built.

The present officers are Hildred Antrup, President; Grace Stroh, Vice President; Luella Fink, Secretary; Mable Throop, Treasurer. The total

membership to date is ninety. Mrs. Ellen Hershey, wife of General Lewis B. Hershey, is a member of this unit.

The members of the Legion and Auxiliary and their families meet on the Legion's Birthday Anniversary and Armistice for a pot luck supper and program.

Six Charter Members are still active, namely: Pearl Blosser, Maude Myers, Lillian Harding, Bertha Weaver, Opal Falka, and Sylvia Wells.

### Sorosis Circle

Sorosis Circle of Fremont, one of the oldest Literary Clubs in Steuben County, was organized Nov. 12th, 1909, with the following members: Mrs. Aaron Kinsey, Mrs. George Reed, Mrs. W. D. Wells, Mrs. Ernest Watters, Mrs. Edna Judson, Mrs. James Bevier, Mrs. Overholt, Mrs. Harvey Bailey, and Mrs. Lydia Phenicie.

Charter membership was limited to twenty-five (25) and the following completed the list: Mrs. Clyde Twitchell, Mrs. C. A. Moore, Mrs. E. Clair Duguid, Mrs. Earl Hall, Mrs. Ida Hilton, Miss Floy McKeenan, Mrs. Frank Shupp, Mrs. Harry L. Taylor, Mrs. Roy Isenhower, Mrs. J. W. Heller, Miss Irene Hall, Miss Effie Hall, Miss Luella McClue, Mrs. D. W. Gleason, Sr., and Mrs. Chas. Gier.

The object of the organization shall be, "to promote a broader and better culture, intellectually and socially." Its motto shall be, "Cultivation is as necessary to the mind as food to the body."

Mrs. Aaron Kinsey, founder and so called "Mother of Sorosis," served as the first President. Mrs. George Reed, Vice President; Mrs. W. D. Wells, Secretary; Mrs. Ernest Watters, Treasurer; and the roll of members numbered forty-two (42).

Meetings were held alternate Fridays during the months of October to May, inclusive. Literary programs consisted of miscellaneous subjects and studies, and twice each year musical programs were given.

Sorosis set for itself the goal of establishing a Library in Fremont. This was begun through donation of books by members and other interested persons. The first club room, or Library, was in the upper room of the brick building, known as the old Bank, on North Wayne Street.

In 1913, a contract was entered into with the Trustees of the Congregational Church (no longer used for church purposes), under which contract Sorosis moved their Library to the Church building and carried on their work in new quarters.

Sorosis made a valiant struggle to maintain its existence and promote its growth during the ensuing years of World War #1. No meetings were held during 1918-1919, but late in 1919 Sorosis was reconvened and a decision made to present the Sorosis Library, consisting of 769 books, to the public, as a foundation for the present Fremont Public Library.

It was determined, in 1928, to place a limit upon the membership of Sorosis, and this was set at twenty-five (25) active and eight (8) associate members. The membership remains the same today.

In 1937, an amendment, providing for an honorary membership list, was added to the club constitution. This list now comprises four (4) names. Nine (9) Charter members are still living.

Sorosis Circle is affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs, a world wide organization, both as a County and a District Member.

The 1953-54 Officers are: President, Mrs. Arthur Boore; Vice President, Mrs. Henry Wells; Secretary, Mrs. Morris Hanson; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Wayne Champion; Treasurer, Mrs. Russ Hershey.

### Minerva Club

Minerva, a literary club, was formally organized on June 14, 1937, at a meeting held in Fremont, Indiana. Sixteen of the twenty charter members were present.

At this meeting the name Minerva, meaning the Goddess of Wisdom, was selected for the Club.

A constitution, which had been prepared by a committee of five, was accepted.

The object of the organization is to promote a broader and better culture, intellectually and socially.

The motto of the club is "Knowledge Is Power."

Its colors are yellow and white, and its flower, the snapdragon.

The club is limited to 20 active members, plus as many associate members as can qualify. Dues are \$1.00 per year for active members and \$2.00 per year for associate members.

The Club meets the second Monday night of each month, September through June inclusive, at 7:30 o'clock, at the homes of the members.

The programs are planned by a committee of three appointed by the president.



Each member is required to perform all duties assigned to her by this committee.

The Minerva Club sponsors the Girl Scout Troop in Fremont. They have promoted two public book reviews to raise money for Girl Scout work.

The club has had several community projects; they bought socks, caps, and mittens for needy school children at Christmas time; a milk fund for a needy family; they sold articles which had been made by the blind, and each year the club purchases a TB bond.

Probably the highlight of the Minerva Club year is its Guest Day program held each year in June. This is a dinner party, followed by a program prepared for the enjoyment of the members and their guests. This program may be given by the members or by outside talent.

Minerva has never become a federated club, feeling they wanted to keep their club strictly on a local plane.

#### **Angola Jaycee Wives**

The Angola Jaycee Wives was founded in October, 1950, by Mrs. Cleon Throop and Mrs. Ed. Williamson, Jr. The first meeting of this group was held October 3rd., with representatives of the Fort Wayne Jaycee Wives present to aid in its organization.

The group was organized on October 10th., with twenty-seven wives of the Junior Chamber of Commerce members present. Regular meeting nights were set for the second Tuesday of each month, and its purpose was to hold social programs and aid in promoting and supporting Jaycee activities only. Election of officers was held as follows: Pauline Throop, president; Eileen Fulton, vice-president; Shirley Bakstad, secretary; Iona White, treasurer. Mary Williamson was appointed program chairman, and Frances Wilder to head the charter and constitution committee.

The Charter night dinner was held November 14th at the Captain's Cabin, with the Jaycees as guests. New officers were installed by Ed. Williamson, president of the Jaycees, and thirty-one members signed the charter, including Pauline Throop, Mary Williamson, Iona White, Eileen Fulton, Shirley Bakstad, Kay Mason, Janet Goodwin, Eleanore Aldrich, Luzetta Wright, Virginia Plank, Barbara Blough, Mary Sanxter, Patricia McBride, Marian White, Irene Skove, June Sunday, Berdena Mann, Helen Buse, Dee Frisinger, Angela Sell, Peggy Bledsoe, Dorothy Rausch, Miriam

Hartman, June Boyer, Gene Wagner, Katie Lou Phelan, Peggy Butler, Virginia Priest, Wilma Davenport, Frances Wilder, Marguerite Manahan, Betty Lu Clark, Jean Bledsoe, Louise Sassman.

#### **Order of Eastern Star of Angola**

The Order of Eastern Star was organized December 30, 1887, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of the State of Indiana. The meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Of course there are all kinds of rules and committees, such as Finance, Relief, Sickness, Membership, Petitions, Investigating, and the Ballot. At the first meeting in 1888, 49 answered to the roll call. "The 7th of November, no meeting in 'President Election'!" In 1889, 24 were added, including Wilma Elston, the only one now living. 1890, 10 added, all gone, 1891, one living, Carrie Cole McCaley. 1892, one, Maud Watson Robinson. 1893, Ensie Taylor Hardy. 1895, Alphonso C. Wood. 1897, Thad Miller, Lilly Fisk Long. 1900, Mayme Wood, Villa Crain. 1902, Nora Burt Goodale, Clara Burt, Helen Gillis Devine, Weir Wood, Merle Saylor Wood. 1903, Jennie Croxton, Edith Stiefel, Lina Jacob Williams. 1905, Luella Mallory. 1906, Mabelle Klink. 1907, Ella Butz Ramsey, Anna Watson. 1912, Maud Sheffer, R. W. Sheffer. 1913, Emily Dygert, June Creel, Lois Kolb. 1914, Altina Lane. I have mentioned just a few, thinking there might be a few old members (like myself) who would like to recall the good times we used to have in the old Masonic Hall, third floor of the building in the southwest corner of the square. I could go on and on, for we still have wonderful meetings. We moved into our new home in 1924, with just a handful compared to now. It was like having a new dress, we had to put our best foot forward, always working hard and never complaining as the Subordinate Lodge can testify.

Our organization now numbers 473 Chapters, and 130,000 members here in the State of Indiana gives renewed assurance that Indiana will measure up to her responsibilities of life. An ardent churchman declared the other day, that every man goes to his grave empty handed, save only that which he did for others. The Eastern Star grew out of a strong desire to do something for fellow men. As long as we can call on 130,000 or more members we are on the right side in Indiana. In this organization alone, we can face the future with courage and with confidence, believing always that a great destiny was carved out of the

universe by Almighty God for America to lead the world to a better day. We urge all mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, or widows who have attained the age of eighteen years, to join our Order and work for our fellow men. Our Masonic home at Franklin affords us many opportunities to give to those who are just a little more unfortunate than we. If we did not have the Order of the Eastern Star all over the State of Indiana, we would not have our home in Franklin. It is the generosity of the Eastern Star that keeps the "Home fire burning."

It is in loving—not in being loved  
The heart is blessed  
It is giving—not in seeking gifts,  
We find our guest.

#### **Ashley Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter #229**

On January 7th, 1899, a special meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. Mr. Charles Bruce called the meeting to order and Mrs. Thomas Wickwire was chosen chairman for the evening. The following officers were elected: W. M., Arnette Hunt; W. P.; Charles Bruce; A. M., Lydia Bruce; Secretary, Emma Hoover; and Treasurer, Mattie Wickwire. It was decided to call the Chapter "Ashley," and the meetings should be held on the first and third Tuesday of the month.

At a called meeting on February 7th, 1899, Brother F. W. Fanning, Special Deputy of Butler, Indiana, instituted the new Chapter with the authority given by the Grand Patron. The Officers from Butler, Forest Chapter #44, exemplified the work and twenty-four members were obligated.

In the early 1900's when the railroad shops left Ashley, many members left Ashley to go to new homes, but many of them retained their membership with Ashley Chapter.

The Chapter met with the Steuben County Group for annual inspection until the 1930's when it was shifted to DeKalb County. The Past Matron's Club still belongs to the Steuben County Group.

The Chapter was honored at the 1939 session of Grand Chapter when Evangeline Frederick was appointed District Deputy of District 21. The next year she was appointed to the Publicity Committee. But the greatest honor came in 1943, when she was appointed Grand Martha.

The Chapter celebrated its Golden Anniversary

on June 21, 1949. Under special dispensation, the meeting was held at the Ashley Town Hall. The presiding Worthy Matron was Jessie Goyings, and the Worthy Patron, John Shore.

#### **Orland Chapter #361, Order of Eastern Star**

On March 27, 1909, 31 men and women saw fit to Institute a Chapter; Orland Chapter #361, Order of the Eastern Star. Wm. Brown, a native son of Orland, was instituting officer. A party of members of Angola Chapter #78 came to Orland in a bobsled for the ceremony. Dr. and Mrs. Creel were in the group.

Of those 31 Charter members, only one is living on this date, Wm. J. Case, of Orland. Mrs. Weltha Jeffery, was the first Worthy Matron, and Mr. Abram Jeffery, Worthy Patron.

The meetings were held in the old Masonic Hall which was destroyed by fire on Dec., 30, 1901. All the furniture and regalia of both the Masons and Stars were destroyed. The records were saved, having been kept in the home of Abram Jeffery. The Grange Hall, located where the Appliance store now stands, was then used by the Chapter. The first large Bible was presented to the Eastern Star and Masonic fraternities by the Steuben Republican.

John W. Hanan of LaGrange, a former professor in the Orland Schools, presented the Charter, which was granted on April 27, 1910. Rev. E. W. Grey, Pastor of the Congregational Church, was Master of the Blue Lodge. Brother Thomas J. Creel, Past Patron of Angola #78, was the Constituting Officer, on June 7, 1910. 18 candidates were initiated the first year, making a total of 49 members.

The present building was built in 1913 and dedicated in 1914. A group of sisters sewed the first heavy carpet that remained in use 30 years and has now been replaced with new carpet.

Sister Cora B. Holland of Angola, P.W.G.M., inspected the Chapter as Grand Matron of the Indiana Grand Chapter in 1921 and again in 1923. The first Group Meeting of Steuben County Chapters was held in Angola October 7, 1924.

Orland Chapter has a membership of 140 at the present time.

#### **Order of Eastern Star Chapter #366, Fremont**

Fremont Chapter #366, Order of the Eastern Star, was organized in Fremont, Indiana, in April, 1911. The list of charter members includes Anna



M. Wells, Maude Taylor, Carrie B. Jordan, Laura Gier, Mabelle Wolfe, Anna Doster, Ruby Hershey, Alma Wolfe, Vina Dygert, Garrett K. Dygert, Loa Schaffer, Lola Jordan, Burt Jordan, Arthur D. Wells, Frank E. Taffner, Warren D. Wells, Jay J. McClue, Jennie Jordan, Cary Jordan, Adele Caswell, John Caswell, and Vina Taylor. Of this number, only three are living—Ruby Hershey, Loa Schaffer, and Adele French, all of Steuben County.

Chapter meetings are held in the Masonic Temple on the second Wednesday of each month, except July and August, at seven-thirty o'clock. Throughout the years there have been many interesting and impressive meetings, among them the celebration of the silver anniversary of the Chapter.

A roll of Past Matrons includes many of the charter members as well as many who have been initiated since—Anna Wells, Vina Dygert, Laura Gier, Vina Taylor, Minnie Hall, Anna Doster, Ruby Hershey, Iva Hutchins, Lila Jordan, Lola Jordan, Beulah Whaley, Hazel Brattin, Jessie Green, Ina Snyder, Lillian Harding, Winifred Stage, Ida Mae Neutz, Adele French, Nettie Harding, Mildred Sherburne, Elda Hall, Ruth Hadley, Lucille Beams, Amy White, Maggie Crawford, Virginia Salisbury, Opal Falka, and Sylvia Wells. Past Patrons are Frank Taffner, Fred Hackett, Herbert Wolfe, Cary Jordan, Charles Hutchins, Donald Wells, Bart Jordan, William Whaley, Arthur Green, Frank Hall, and Roy Sherburne.

In December, 1945, the entire Temple was destroyed by fire. Then began the job of rebuilding, which was completed in 1946 by the Masonic Lodge, with the assistance of the Eastern Stars.

The present staff of officers includes Mary Catherine Crandall, Worthy Matron; Roy Sherburne, Worthy Patron; Mary Rebecca Vaughn, Associate Matron; Robert Vaughn, Worthy Patron; Lillian Harding, Secretary; Mildred Sherburne, Treasurer; Lorene Weigle, Conductress; Dolores Somers, Associate Conductress; Mildred Champion, Chaplain; Opal Falka, Marshall; Lucille Beams, Organist; Shirley Kelley, Adah; Beulah Whaley, Ruth; Lola Moeller, Esther; Velma Keyes, Martha; Sylvia Wells, Electa; Lula Lippincott, Warder; Glen Falka, Sentinel; and Marilyn Wells, Soloist.

The members of the local chapter are also members of the 21st District Association which is composed of Steuben, DeKalb, Noble, and LaGrange counties, and meets every third month. The past matrons have also organized a club for the purpose

of social enjoyments and aid to the chapter. This club is also associated with the Steuben County Past Matrons.

#### **Order Eastern Star—Pleasant Lake Chapter #231**

Early in the year of 1899 a group of people in this community signed a petition for a dispensation to organize a Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star at Pleasant Lake. On February 2nd, 1899, the Chapter was instituted by Deputy Grand Patron W. H. Leas of Waterloo, with officers of Angola Chapter No. 78 conferring the degrees on Emma Hamlin, who had been appointed Conductress of Pleasant Lake Chapter U. D. Mrs. Meda Freygang of Angola No. 78 served as Grand Secretary pro-tem for the instituting ceremonies. The officers installed were: W.M., Mrs. Lue Carpenter; W.P., Albert Mitchell; A.M., Mrs. Mollie Brooks; Sec'y., Miss Mabel Lacey (Klink), Treas., Mrs. Cora Fuller; Cond., Mrs. Emma Hamlin; A.C., Mrs. Ella Shrimplin; Adah, Mrs. Rena Dolph; Ruth, Mrs. Ted Lacey; Esther, Miss Minnie Shrimplin; Martha, Miss Madge Lacey (Ingalls); Electa, Miss Nettie Saul (Walters); Warden, Mrs. Sarah Gilbert; Sentinel, Mrs. Nellie Carpenter. The following Charter members were obligated that evening—Mrs. Mollie Brooks, George Brooks, Mrs. Zora Ball, Mrs. Jane Bennett, Mrs. Lue Carpenter, Mrs. Nellie Carpenter, J. J. Carpenter, O. W. Chasey, Dr. C. M. Dolph, Mrs. Rena Dolph, Mrs. Cora Fuller, Frank G. Gilbert, George Gilbert, Mrs. Sarah Gilbert, Miss Grace Gilbert (Jackson), Mrs. Emma Hamlin, Charles Ingalls, Mrs. Alice Ingalls, Miss Vera Ingalls, John W. Lacey, Mrs. Ted Lacey, Miss Mabel Lacey, Miss Madge Lacey, Albert Mitchell, Miss Gertrude Mitchell (Ransburg), Miss Nettie Saul, Mrs. Ella Shrimplin, and Miss Minnie Shrimplin.

Mrs. Nannie Case, Misses Margaret, Fanny, and Mr. George Scovell, Mrs. Anne Hoagland, and Mrs. Tillie Tuttle were initiated before the end of 1899.

At the second meeting on February 16th, 1899, (the stated meetings were fixed for the first and third Thursdays of each month by the By-Laws) the following Charter members were initiated: Charles and Mrs. Alice Ingalls, Miss Gertrude Mitchell, and O. W. Chasey. Sister Hunt of the Ashley Chapter was a visitor and gave a short poem.

The new Chapter carried on under the dispensation until the Charter, dated April 27th., 1899,

and signed by Lizzie J. Smythe W.G.M., W. H. Glascock W.G.P., and Nettie Ransford, Grand Sec'y., was granted at the session of Grand Chapter in April and presented to the Chapter at the constituting ceremonies on May 17th, by the Worthy Grand Matron Carrie Fanning of Butler (Forest Chapter), assisted by Grand Esther, Sister Wood, of Angola Chapter.

The Chapter progressed through the years, even working alone for about thirteen years. Then in 1935 our Masonic Brothers reorganized as Steuben Lodge No. 728 F. & A. M., and in 1941, together with them, we moved to our present home.

In the fifty years of the chapter's life 280 members have signed the By-laws and been admitted as members of Pleasant Lake Chapter. Today the membership is 130. Some have moved away to other Chapters and others have passed to their reward.

#### Charter Members

Mrs. Mollie Brooks, George Brooks, Mrs. Zora Ball, Mrs. Jane Bennett, Mrs. Lue Carpenter, Mrs. Nellie Carpenter, J. J. Carpenter, O. W. Chasey, Dr. C. M. Dolph, Mrs. Rena Dolph, Mrs. Cora Fuller, Frank G. Gilbert, George W. Gilbert, Mrs. Sarah Gilbert, Miss Grace Gilbert, Mrs. Emma Hamlin, Charles Ingalls, Mrs. Alice Ingalls, Miss Vera Ingalls, Mrs. Ted Lacey, John W. Lacey, Miss Mabel Lacey, Mrs. Madge Lacey, Albert Mitchell, Miss Gertie Mitchell, Miss Nettie Saul, Mrs. Ella Shrimplin, Miss Minnie Shrimplin.

#### 50 Year Members

Listed below are the names of four people who have been members of the Pleasant Lake Order of Eastern Stars for a period of fifty years. They are as follows: Nancy Case, Nellie Chadwick, Margaret Scovill, and Gertrude Ransburg. (Gertrude Ransburg died in October of 1954.)

The Chapter has continued to grow and now has a membership of 125. Each Matron has striven to make the meetings interesting to attend. We are looking forward to a great many more years of service in our community, which takes the loyalty and cooperation of every one of the members.

#### Pythian Sisters—Fremont Temple #245

A female complement of the Order of Knights of Pythias Lodge of Fremont, Indiana, a Temple of Rathbone Sisters, was instituted, at an informal meeting on March 20, 1901.

Mrs. Nellie Buchanan, District Deputy Grand Chief of Albion, Indiana, gave her assistance and very quickly secured eighteen charter members.

Twelve of the Angola Sisters came to assist in the institution of the new Temple. All the charter members were present but one (unable to come on account of the bad storm). A number of the Knights were also received as members.

The Ritualistic work was exemplified by the officers of Angola Temple, who conferred the Rank of Knight on Warren D. Wells, and the degree of Lady's Rank on Mrs. Anna M. Wells, the newly elected Most Excellent Chief.

The new Temple was named in honor of the local Knights of Pythias Lodge—"Fremont Temple, #245, Pythian Sisters."

The meetings were held regularly from this time on, each week for a while, and then every two weeks. The first meeting place was in the rooms above the Fremont Theatre, now occupied by the I. O. O. F. The Sisters experienced quite a struggle to keep going. After some time, they moved to the Town Hall Building in the rooms occupied by the American Legion. Later they moved to the second floor of the Follett Building, now occupied by the Hadley 5 & 10, remaining here until the Knights purchased the building where they are now located.

On October 2, 1901, a charter was granted to the Temple. Year by year the Temple grew, reaching to peak membership in 1923, one hundred and thirteen Sisters. Then each year after, a few members were lost, and during the years from 1934 to 1940, there was quite a struggle for existence. The membership went down to twenty Sisters, with an average attendance of from five to seven. These few faithful Sisters did not give up, but held together; then with the re-organization of the Knights (who had also been in a sad plight) there were more eligible ladies for membership. The "Open Door" method came along and many new members joined.

On October 2, 1951, the Temple celebrated the "Fiftieth" Anniversary of the granting of the charter and also honored the two living charter members, Past Chiefs, Ella Heller and Ella Scott. This was a lovely occasion and was attended by one hundred and nine Sisters, which included Sisters from various other Temples.

During the past year, 1953, the Temple has organized the "Snowwhite" Council of Sunshine girls.



### **American Legion Auxiliary of Angola**

The American Legion Auxiliary of Angola was first organized in 1923, with the following as charter members: Mrs. Fred Emerson, Louise Smith, Linda Shaughniss, Beatrice McBride, Milla Lane, Mrs. Fred Williamson, Ethel Humphreys, Ethel Menzenberger, Minnie Rathbun, Beulah Brooks, Berniece Zimmerman, Jane Throp, Mrs. H. S. Johnson, Florence Ritter, and Mrs. F. T. Dole, with Ethel Humphreys acting as president. In 1924 there was a membership of twenty-four.

The Auxiliary being in its infancy and having many burdens as a unit to carry, these members disbanded, and in 1926 re-organized with the following charter members: Emma Masten, Rose Hamilton, Esta Ott, Ella Ott, Velma Hendry, Milla Lane, Anna Ramsay, Beulah Brooks, Hazel Wolfe, Jane Throp, Imo Purdy, Lucille Emerson, Linda Shaughniss, Ina Emerson, Iva Harrison, Cornelia Masten, Jeanette Hendry, Berenice Harrison, Beatrice McBride, and Levina Keller, with Rose Hamilton acting as first President. We still have this charter which is known as Unit #31. The membership has grown to around 347. Those eligible to join are the wives, mothers, sisters, and daughters of veterans from World War One, Two, and of the Korean War.

We have a junior unit, organized in 1949. The members range in age from tiny tots to the age of eighteen. At present there are about sixty-six members. They meet once a month and assist the Auxiliary on many committees.

We have an 8-40 unit which also comprises Auxiliary members. To be eligible to this unit, a member must belong three or more years to an Auxiliary unit, having served the unit as president, or taking active part on important committees. The unit was organized in 1952, and at present has thirteen members. They meet twice each month.

The members of the unit all work together and take an active part in child welfare, Americanism, girls' state, community service, Knightstown home, sale of poppies, Pan American study, rehabilitation and education of orphans of veterans. They do their part in the district and state, which helps to make up the National Organization.

### **History of Frances Elliott Clark Music Club**

Musical interest both through performance and listening has been displayed during the years in Angola by many of its citizens.

In the fall of 1928, Mrs. Blanche Finicle Sopher, formerly of Lima, Ohio, and Miss Eloise Willis recognized the need for doing something for their city in the way of furthering musical expression. Mrs. Sopher had had broad experiences as a concert singer and as an active member of the Etude Music Club of Lima. Miss Willis was a graduate of the Music School at Olivet College, and was teaching music in the local schools. Since there were other musically educated women in the vicinity, it was decided that a music club in Angola would add much to the cultural status of the community. On October 28, Mrs. Howard Birge, of Bloomington, Indiana, then president of the Indiana Federated Music Clubs, met with a small group of local women to discuss procedures in setting up an organization here. The following November 20, at the High School building, was set as the first official meeting of the new organization. It was decided at that time to name the club after Mrs. Frances Elliott Clark, formerly of Angola, and internationally known as the outstanding woman educator in the public school music field. Mrs. Blanche Finicle Sopher was elected president, Mrs. Burton Handy, vice-president, and Mrs. Ralph Redding, secretary and treasurer.

Charter members were listed as follows: Mrs. Blanche Finicle Sopher, singer, with concert experience; Mrs. Burton Handy, singer; Mrs. Ralph Redding, singer and pianist; Mrs. Orville Stevens, singer; Mrs. Frank Watkins, singer; Mrs. A. G. Harshman, pianist and organist; Mrs. Mabel Huffman Ferris of Pleasant Lake, singer with concert experience; Miss Eloise Willis, singer and flutist; Miss Louise Martin, pianist; Miss Hilda Cline, cellist; Miss Dorothy Long, singer and pianist; Miss Miriam Stevens, singer, pianist and cellist; Miss Malinda Shank, singer; and Miss Maude Schoville, pianist.

The first musical program was held at the home of Mrs. Frank Watkins, on January 1, 1929. The new constitution was read and adopted. The object of the organization was to study music and its literature, and to promote community interest in music. Velma Apple, singer and pianist, was the first new name to be elected to membership.

By the next meeting date the program committee had compiled hand printed programs covering the remainder of the year's meetings. The theme carried out was based on American composers and their works. The name of Mrs. Frances

Elliott Clark was placed on the honorary membership roll.

Mrs. Herschel Austin, singer; Mrs. Lloyd Wilson, singer; and Mrs. Joseph Weicht, pianist, were elected to active membership on March 5, 1929. Indian music was the theme of the program.

At the final program of the year Miss Florence Sewell, pianist of Pleasant Lake, was elected to join the group.

The purpose of the second year's work was to study composers and their compositions according to the period in which they lived. Miss Wilma Dick, pianist, and Miss Alice Parrott, pianist, of Tri-State College, were elected to membership.

Miss Clara Clark, violinist, Miss Choral Cravens, singer, Miss Sarah Orrack, singer, and Mrs. Arthur Field, singer and pianist, were elected to membership on May 6, 1930.

In September, 1930, Miss Esther Morley, singer, and Miss Nellie Caswell, pianist, were elected to membership.

In 1931, Mrs. Dean Cline, pianist, and Miss Hope Sutton, violinist, were elected to membership. The program for the year was based upon composers of different nations.

Mrs. Lloyd Wilson, singer, and Miss Lorana Grim, violinist, of Pleasant Lake, were elected to membership in 1932.

Mrs. Mark Croxton, singer and pianist, and Mrs. Raymond E. Willis, pianist, were elected to membership in 1932.

The 1932-33 program stressed "Our American Music" with responses, papers, and musical numbers, exemplifying the masters of the United States.

In 1933, Mrs. Lloyd Oakland, pianist, was elected to membership, and Mrs. Hope Sutton Handy was granted a year's leave of absence.

At the June 13, 1933, meeting, the resignations of Miss Alice Parrott and Mrs. Arthur Field were accepted.

"Early Musical Instruments," "Autumn," "Youth in Music," "Education of a Music Lover," "The Story of the Organ," "The Music of Washington's Time," "Giacomo Puccini," "Bellini, Ponchielle, and Donizetti," and "Trail of the Troubadours," were program themes of the 1933-34 year's work.

Miss Clara Clark's resignation from membership was accepted February 6, 1934.

At the March, 1934 meeting, Miss Margaret Chasey, pianist and singer of Pleasant Lake, and

Mrs. Thomas Davies, singer, were elected to membership.

Miss Alice Parrott was welcomed back to membership at the May 1, 1934, meeting, and the resignation of Miss Hope Sutton was accepted.

"Periods in Music," with a different emphasis from that previously used, was the theme of the 1934-35 program.

Mrs. Paul Chasey, singer, of Pleasant Lake, and Mrs. Herschel Austin, who previously was on leave of absence, were elected to membership at the April 30, 1935, meeting.

At the June 14, picnic at the Stevens cottage, Mrs. Margaret Romero was elected to membership.

In 1935 the program committee planned the year's work around the elements in music. The resignations of Mrs. Choral Cravens Pape, Mrs. Lloyd Oakland, and Mrs. Frank Watkins were read and accepted.

On January 7, 1936, Mrs. Henry Willis, pianist and organist, was elected to membership. Also, at the following meeting, February 4, 1936, Miss Loretta Sanders, pianist and organist, and Mary Sanders, singer, were added to the membership list.

In June, 1936, Miss Arlene VanAuken, singer and pianist, of Pleasant Lake, and Miss Cleola Wolf, singer, also of Pleasant Lake, were elected to membership. Miss Wilma Dick was granted a year's leave of absence.

An interesting plan for the 1936-37 program based upon "Childhood," "Youth," "Love," "Patriotism," "Retrospection," "Maturity," and "Consecration," was introduced at the first meeting. Miss Alice Parrott's resignation was accepted, and the name of Miss Dorothy Pfingstag, singer, pianist, violinist, and cornetist, of Hudson, Indiana, was voted to membership.

Mrs. G. W. Trumbull, pianist, was elected to membership on November 3, 1936.

Mrs. Herman Wilson, singer, became a new member during the Spring of 1937.

The club was honored by the presence of Mrs. Frances Elliott Clark at a luncheon party at Potawatomi Inn in August, 1937. Mrs. Clark gave an interesting talk on the "Modern Trends in Musical Education."

Another enjoyable year began on October 6, 1937, with the first of the programs on "Music of the Different Nations" being presented. Resignations of Mrs. Margaret Chasey Ford and Miss Cleola Wolf were accepted.



At the annual picnic on July 28, 1939, Mrs. Jack Matson, singer, and Miss Ruth Blackburn, singer and violinist, were elected to membership. Also at a special meeting August 9, 1939, Mrs. Roscoe Erbe, pianist, and Miss Mary Puckett, pianist, were elected to membership.

Types of music was the theme of the 1939-40 program. At the first meeting, Mrs. Herschel Austin was granted a leave of absence.

On January 7, 1940, Miss Berta Wolf, singer and violinist of Pleasant Lake, was voted to membership.

On June 18, 1940, the resignations of Dorothy Pfingstag Meeks and Mrs. Raymond Willis were accepted. Mrs. Herschel Austin was welcomed back to active membership, and Betty Gilbert, singer of Pleasant Lake, was elected to membership.

A miscellaneous program based primarily upon American music comprised the 1940-41 year's work.

It was unanimously decided at the March, 1941, meeting that Mrs. Raymond Willis be made an honorary member of the music club.

Four new members were elected to membership at a special meeting on July 1, 1941. They were; Mrs. Ralph Perkins, singer; Willa Erickson, violinist; Mrs. Albert Cramer, pianist and flutist; and Mrs. Robert Field, singer.

Music of the Western Hemisphere was stressed in the 1941-42 program.

The resignations of Mrs. Handy and Mrs. Harshman were accepted in March 1942, but with the reservation that their names be placed on the associate list.

Miss Mary Catherine Lippincott, singer, pianist and violinist, was elected to membership at a special meeting July 14, 1942.

Mrs. Ruth Yotter Thomas, singer and pianist, and Loene Collins, clarinetist, were elected to membership on November 3, 1942.

At the annual spring picnic in 1943, Miss Cleola Wolf was elected to membership.

The 1943-44 program again was of a miscellaneous nature with emphasis upon women composers.

At the first meeting, October 5, 1943, Mrs. Blanche Finicle Sopher was made an associate member and Mrs. Ralph Perkins was reinstated as an active member.

"Seasonal Features" was the theme of the 1944-45 year's work.

The December 7th program was given by the children of the members. It was followed by a party in their honor.

At the final meeting in April, Mrs. Paul Chasey was voted to active membership.

Phyllis Folk, violinist, was elected to membership at the June picnic and Miss Eloise Willis was made an honorary member.

The 1945-46 program was miscellaneous in its structure and proved to be very enjoyable.

To augment the Annual Recital and May Festival, a special recital, sponsored by the club, was given by Robert Zimmer, violinist, and Mrs. Herman Wilson, vocalist, during music week.

At the June, 1946, picnic, Miss Mardelle Smith, singer, organist, and pianist; Mrs. Ray Kindig, flutist, pianist, and singer; and Mrs. Robert Ramsay, singer, pianist, and violinist; were elected to membership. Mrs. Henry Willis was voted to active membership and Mrs. Louis Romero's resignation was accepted.

Another interesting miscellaneous program was planned for 1946-47.

The resignations of Miss Mary Sanders and Mrs. Andrew Lees were accepted at the October 1946 meeting. Mrs. Velma Begin was elected to membership, and Mrs. Harshman's name was placed on the honorary membership list.

A special tea was held at the home of Mrs. Orville Stevens on November 17, 1946, honoring Mrs. Frank Creger and Mrs. Claire McTurnan of the State Federation of music. The members of the newly organized Evening Musicale of Angola were also honored guests.

Children of the members presented the Christmas program December 3, 1946. At that time Miss Arlene Van Auken was elected to membership.

At the June picnic, Mrs. Francis Townes, pianist, was elected to membership.

It was a tremendous shock to her friends and the community that during the summer of 1947 Mrs. Burton Handy, a charter member of the Frances Elliott Clark Music Club, departed this life in an automobile accident. She had contributed greatly to the building of the organization and to the success it was enjoying.

"Elements of Music" was the basic theme for the 1947-48 year's work.

The meetings progressed in much the same fashion as of years before. In December, 1947, Mrs.

Dean Crother's resignation was accepted, and in January 1948, Mrs. Robert Field was voted to active membership.

The May Festival and Guest Recital were both honored by the presence of Dr Frances Elliott Clark.

At the June picnic, Glenna Mae Golden, violinist, pianist, and composer, and Yvonne Humphries, violinist, were elected to membership.

The 1948-1949 program was a miscellaneous one, varying only in the presentation of the children's program in November, and a Christmas vesper service on December 12, 1948, at the Church of Christ. The election to membership took place in December.

The program planned for 1949-50 was a varied one. Mrs. Elwood Nichols, singer and pianist, was elected to membership at the January 10, 1950, meeting.

The 1950-51 program consisted of numbers which the members suggested to the program committee. High-lights of the year were a "Two-Piano Festival" on January 9, 1951, at the home of Mrs. Orville Stevens; the sponsoring of Robert Zimmer in Recital on April 29, 1951; the State Federation of Music Club's Tea at the Governor's Mansion in Indianapolis at which Mrs. Herman Wilson sang and Mrs. Velma Begin accompanied her; and the May Festival and Guest Recital during Music week.

The resignations of Mrs. Roy Crandall and Miss Yvonne Humphries were accepted at the June, 1951, picnic. It was decided to dispense with the Annual Music Recital in May and combine it with the May Festival. Since the miscellaneous programs had won favor with the members, it was decided to follow the same plan in 1951 and 1952. Two guest nights took place; one on November 4, 1951, at Mrs. Joseph Weicht's, and the other April 4, 1952, at Mrs. Enos Parsell's. At the latter meeting, the club was again honored by having Dr. Frances Elliott Clark as guest speaker. Even though she was ninety-two years old, her quick humor, keen memory, and gracious manner were most complimentary to a great lady of music.

At the October 7, 1952, meeting, two new members were elected to membership; Mrs. Herschel Austin, a former member, and Miss Nancy Siebold, singer and pianist.

A new feature was enjoyed April 6, 1954, when

foreign students from Tri State College entertained with music from their various nations.

Since this is the twenty-fifth year that the Frances Elliott Clark Music Club has been organized, an anniversary dinner is being planned for May 22, 1954, to which all charter and past members will be invited.

We, the members of this club, are deeply grateful for the rich musical heritage our founders have given us. We are very proud to be a part of the educational experiences this organization has enjoyed, and are looking forward to an increasingly cultural and progressive future.

#### **W.M.A. Pleasant Lake (United Brethren)**

The Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren Church, North Ohio conference, Pleasant Lake, Indiana, was organized in May, 1898, during the pastorate of Rev. Alfred McCloe, with Mrs. R. L. Fegley as the first President, and Mrs. L. R. Weaver as the first Secretary and Treasurer.

For years, it was conducted as a Foreign Missionary Society and a Ladies Aid combined, until a Ladies Aid was organized during the pastorate of Rev. Parker, in the years of 1935 and 36.

Among the Charter members of the W. M. A. were: Mrs. A. F. McCloe, Mrs. Frank Menges, Mrs. A. C. Gilbert, Mrs. Ortensia Gilbert, Mrs. C. A. Ingalls, Mrs. D. C. Ransburg, Mrs. James Harpham, Mrs. Geo. Cogswell, Mrs. Levi Weaver, Mrs. J. W. Goodwin, Mrs. J. T. Ransburg, Mrs. John Snyder, Mrs. Frank Kanouse, Mrs. Sam Harpham, Mrs. D. VanWye, Mrs. Frank Gilbert, Mrs. John Deller, Mrs. Alvin Goodwin, Mrs. R. L. Fegley, Mrs. Earl Tuttle.

Mrs. Geo. Cogswell, Mrs. J. W. Goodwin, Mrs. Mark Ransburg, were among the early presidents of the society.

The Society has always been a very important part of the church, and since the merger with the Evangelical Church in 1946, has been known as the Woman's Society of World Service (W.S.W.S.)

Of late years, under the leadership of Mrs. Nancy Case, Mrs. A. H. Sholty, Mrs. Frank Kanouse, Mrs. Wade Libey, and Mrs. Coral Straw, in succession, this organization has been carrying on the standards of this most worthy foreign society, following out the great command, "Go ye into all parts of the world and teach and preach the gospel."



### W.S.C.S. of Angola Methodist Church

Before 1940, the woman's work of the Angola Methodist Church was organized into four groups; The Martha and Dorcas Societies, and the Home and Foreign Missionary Societies.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service was organized on September 5, 1940, following the Uniting Conference. Mrs. L. B. Clark was the first president. The Woman's Society of Christian Service supports the home and foreign Mission program of the Woman's Division of Christian Service. It promotes Christian Social Relations in the local church, community, state, nation, and world, and sponsors work with the children, youth, and students. Their study programs cover these various areas of interest. Other presidents since 1940 are; Mrs. Loren Dixon, Mrs. Floyd Faulkerson, Mrs. Mack Fisher, Mrs. Arthur Hockey, Mrs. Wendell Jacob, Mrs. Clayton Elliott.

### "The Questors"

"The Questors," one of the prominent Women's Clubs in the county, was organized in the Autumn of 1940. Credit for the organization must be given to Mrs. W. G. Brooks, (dec.) and Mrs. Dudley W. Gleason, Jr.

The organization meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Brooks, who served as the first President, and the first regular meeting at the home of Mrs. K. C. Emerson. No year books were issued the first year.

The first year book, that of 1941-1942, gives the following officers: President, Mrs. Albert Cramer; Vice President, Mrs. Shirley Sanxter; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Robert Field.

The following names complete the list of members at that time: Mesdames Mayme Allison, Ray Alwood, Louis Britton, W. G. Brooks, Harold Brown, Thomas Carlton, Wm. Chilton, Frank Deller, K. C. Emerson, Mildred Ferry, D. W. Gleason, Jr., Chas. Holland, John Humphries, I. E. King, Anna Lemmon, Earl Lemmon, Ed. Lautzenhisser, Willis Love, Harley Mann, Chas. Pilliod, Glen Radcliffe, Helene Robertson, Glen Simpson, O. H. Swantusch, H. B. Weicht, and E. D. Willis.

The club is unique in that it is the only club in Steuben County holding Universal Membership in the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and also that its roster of members is representative of the entire county.

The aims of the club are to further the education

of its members and provide a club in Steuben County which will be universally affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Membership is limited to thirty-one (31) active members. Meetings are held the second and fourth Thursdays from September through June, which comprises the club year.

The programs are miscellaneous in nature and international in scope, seeking to promote and advance the interests of women everywhere.

In 1954, an honorary membership list was created, and the name of Mrs. Grace Laird, placed thereon. The officers for the club year 1954-1955 are: President, Mrs. Adelbert Shank; Vice-President, Mrs. Harold Harman; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Kenneth Kistler; Parliamentarian, Mrs. Russ Hershey; Press, Mrs. Mildred Ferry.

### "Beta Sigma Phi Sorority."

Beta Sigma Phi is a non-academic organization, cultural and social in nature. It unites young women in fellowship through its planned program, with the ultimate aim of making an art of living. The ideals of our organization are represented in our latin motto "Vita, Scientia, Amicitia" which means Life, Learning, and Friendship.

Beta Sigma Phi was founded by Walter W. Ross, April 30, 1931. The first chapter was established at Abilene, Kansas. The organization became international in scope and now has over 3,000 chapters. Combined with the junior affiliate organization, "Nu Phi Mu," there is a combined membership of approximately 100,000 young women.

Membership of Beta Sigma is composed of young women accepted by the Chapter and the International Office, who by reason of their cultural interests and ideas of living can enjoy the advantages offered them by "Beta Sigma Phi." All members are admitted into membership by invitation, and initiation by ritual.

A number of outstanding women throughout the world have been appointed International Honorary Members of the organization.

"The Torch," the Beta Sigma Phi magazine, is sent to every member. Conducted "Rambles" or tours take members to points of interest in this country as well as foreign countries.

The Alpha Kappa Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi of Angola, had its organizational meeting at the Potawatomi Inn, May 22, 1939, under the direction of a Representative from international Headquarters at Kansas City.

Thirteen (13) Charter members, a Director, Mrs. Rhoda Obenchain, and a social sponsor, Mrs. Jo Bakstad, comprised this new Chapter. The charter was received April 15, 1940.

#### Woman's Study Club of Pleasant Lake

The Woman's Study Club of Pleasant Lake, Indiana, was organized in the year of 1918. The object of this club is to promote the intellectual and social interests of each member, believing that actual participation in subjects of vital interest to the individual benefits the home, and whatever benefits the home must aid in the betterment of mankind. The officers are: President; Vice President; Secretary and Treasurer, combined. The membership is: Active and Associate; Active membership is limited to 30; Associate, to 5 members.

The Club Colors are Yellow and White, the Club Flower is Jonquil.

The Charter Members are as follows: Mrs. Frank Chadwick, Miss Letta Deller, Mrs. Clarence Brooks, Mrs. Ora Case, Mrs. Ottomar Chasey, Mrs. Cora Fuller, Mrs. Van Goodwin, Mrs. Melvin Huffman, Miss Mable Huffman, Miss Berdina Hayward, Mrs. Harley Franklin, Miss Hazel Kirk, Mrs. M. C. Lemmon, Mrs. G. N. Lake, Mrs. Dale Royce, Mrs. Arthur Miller, Mrs. Mark Ransburg, (dec.), Mrs. Bert Sprague, Mrs. Earl Tuttle, Mrs. Sol Tuttle, Mrs. W. E. Tuttle, Mrs. Will Uncapher, Mrs. Horace VanAuken, Mrs. John Willennar.

At the present time (1954) there are four living charter members, namely: Nellie Chadwick, Josephine Miller, Geneva Chasey, Catherine VanAuken. Of the four, one only is active, Mrs. Catherine VanAuken.

The Pleasant Lake Study Club is a Charter member of the Steuben County Federation of Women's Clubs (1926-1954), a member of the District Federation of Women's Clubs since 1925, the State Federation of Women's Clubs from 1929 until 1939.

The Club celebrated its 25th anniversary the 16th of November, 1942, at the home of Mrs. Gerald Fuller. The program was given by members of the club. All ladies who had belonged to the club in the past, were invited as guests.

In Memoriam mention is made of Mrs. Effie Lake who passed away in 1925, Mrs. Bernadine Worthington, 1935, Mrs. Lottie Tuttle, 1938, Mrs. Edith Mann, 1939, Mrs. Lillian Tuttle, 1950, Mrs. Bertha Grimm, 1951, and Mrs. Reba Anstett, 1952.

#### Old Social Club Still in Existence Here

One of the older clubs for women in Angola is the Carpe Diem club, organized soon after the turn of the century by a half dozen of the prominent women of the city. The club still exists, although its meetings have been somewhat interrupted during summer vacation seasons, and the charter members and the others who became members during the first decade of its existence have passed away.

The charter members of the Carpe Diem club were Mrs. Henry Kratz, Mrs. William Braun, Mrs. A. M. A. Miller, Mrs. Frank Morse, Mrs. George Kirk, and Mrs. Edgar Field. The accompanying picture gives those who attended a subsequent meeting, apparently at the Lake James cottage of Mrs. William Braun, on September 22, 1911. Pic-





tured from left to right in the principal row are Mrs. William Braun, Mrs. Frank Morse, Mrs. A. M. A. Miller, Mrs. Howard Thomas, Mrs. Anna Castell, Mrs. Amos Junod, Mrs. Frank Junod, Mrs. Frank Zabst, Mrs. John Orndorf, Mrs. George Willennar, and Mrs. George Kirk. In the lower row from the left are Mrs. Henry Kratz and two guests, Stella Howe and her grandmother, Mrs. John Waller.

From the Angola Newspapers.

## The Fun-Seeking Club

*By Rob Gillis*

"Once in the dear dead days beyond recall," Angola supported, or tolerated, a group of then young sprouts called the "Fun-Seeking Club." Through the later grades and high school years, these young folks created their own amusements out of incidents that might be considered quite passé today: taffy pulls, impromptu parties at some girl's home, oyster suppers with a bob-sled ride, tobogganing on Burt's hill, Easter camps at Lake James, hikes in the woods, (Hendry's south or Wickwire's, west of town) home-made Fairs in somebody's back yard, moonlight serenades by the bucks entour of the maidens' homes—and even beer parties by the male contingent in old Apple Tree Park in the alley area to the rear of the northwest corner of the Public Square.

Innocent pleasures!! You bet. But those kids did not have today's facilities for entertainment; no movies, no cars, no Colas, no bobby-socks, no jazz orchestras, no hot-spots.

The Easter Camp at Paltytown was about the biggest event of the year. In those days, the schools ran on Saturdays, and Monday was the free day (when we stayed home and helped on "washday"). So, in the Springtime, we exercised our persuasive powers on Professor Wyandt (abetted in no small degree by the teachers) to make Easter Saturday a holiday. Thus we kids had a long weekend for Easter Camp.

Erman Shank's mother and Glen Zipfel's mother could bake the most wonderful big crock of beans, rich with pork and molasses; Mrs. Blass and my mother supplied a world of cookies; Paul Weicht and L. C. Smith homes each a baked ham with plenty of cloves and dark brown sugar. Makes my mouth water, even after all these years!! Gosh: what a load of eats we hauled to the lake with Old

Nell and dad's grocery wagon on Friday evening. Some of the crowd rode out on bicycles, some afoot; some did not arrive until Saturday night, hoofing the distance after the stores closed where Bill Waller, Art Gibson, and Claude McGrew, worked on Saturdays.

Never will forget one Easter when some of the pirates who passed by the County Farm (late at night) espied turkeys in a tree at the roadside. (The statute of limitations has run out long since; so it may be told.) Somehow, one of those turkeys was added to our store of victuals. But it was evidently an old, old, bird, and we never had time enough to cook it into the edible stage. It must have been even older than some of the inmates of the County Farm; I know they could not have eaten it either.

But the big reaction came a couple of months later.

One noon while crossing the Public Square en-route back to school, old Bill Croxton was standing on the Angola Bank corner talking to Glen Zipfel. Now it so happened that on the previous year's Camp, some young moonshiner had smuggled in a jug of hard cider. So daddy Joe would not permit Glen to go to camp this Easter; therefore Glen could not give Lawyer Croxton the information he wanted. As I appeared, Croxton rapped his cane on the sidewalk and motioned me over—for Glen had indicated that maybe I could answer his questions better. "Yes; I was at that current Camp. YES; and so were so and so and so and so." I was most communicative in the presence of that great man, who always officiated at the County Fair races, who had always been so kind to "Nigger Dan" (his stableman who is buried under that big dog in front of the Croxton vault in Circle Hill).

"WELL," said the noted jurist, "there is a chicken-stealing case in Court this afternoon and we want some of you boys to be there!!! (???) John Carson will see you soon." He already had the names of some of the crew. I sped to Carver's Drug Store to warn Bill Waller (who hid out in the stock room out in the alley until Court adjourned that day and was not available when Carson came) and to the store where Claude McGrew worked (and he disappeared too). But the fellows still in school got corralled by John Carson and we felt like a chain-gang going up to the Court. Imagine our troubled collective conscience; hap-

pily, Carson was no mind-reader. What a relief when the first one was on the witness stand, to discover that our testimony was only as to weather conditions and moonlight on that Saturday night at Eastertime; the chicken stealing had happened out near Metz.

Those were the days!

We really had wonderfully good times, even if the pleasures were homemade ones.

Erman Shank was an accomplished pianist; he could play any tune that he had heard. He also played the mouth-organ so we always had good instrumental accompaniment when the quartette (or more) went out to serenade the girls. "After the Ball is Over" and "Old Black Joe" and several of Rotary's old numbers still give me a bit of nostalgia (but my wife still insists that Rotarians can't sing as well).

Skating parties? Yes; we had many over on Little Center Lake, with a bonfire of reeds and cattails and brush for frequent warming on the shore. What fancy figure-skating was cut by Paul Weicht and Jim Nyce; ice hockey with bent sticks and a tin can for a puck; races and ice-boats (home made) with two pairs of skates for runners but we were mighty careful to keep away from the lake's inlet at Minnie Creek where Carlton Bodley met his fate one cold day.

Bob sled parties? Surely. Charley Barnes had a special box with extra deep sides that he could put on his runners; plenty of straw in the bottom; plenty of blankets and hot bricks or soapstones for initial warmth; some crackers and cans of oysters from the store. Then off for a ride around Fox Lake and back to some home where an indulgent mamma oversaw the making of a feast. We did not need the hot bricks when going home from the party. Inexpensive, but real fun. No movies then, no autos, no hot-spots for "boughten entertainment;" we were self sufficient and resourceful enough to be immensely entertained.

I still recall Jim Nyce's inborn ability to make lifelike sketches,—some of which are on the boards of our old cottage; a bobsled party to Earl McNaughton's at Ray; foraging melons from Penny Coleman's patch out near the "flowing well"; some Halloweens; etc., etc.

I guess enough has been said.

I do not think we were any different from the kids of today; only we did not have today's facilities.

Below is a list of the members of the "Fun-Seeking Club," as I now have it, with apologies to any who may have been forgotten and thus omitted.

Paul Weicht	Fan Battenburg
Art Gibson	Ina Morse Regan
Bill Waller	Wava Poland Gordon
Jim Nyce	Edgar Wolfe
Elsie McCrory Williams	Florence Moore Estrich
Helen Gillis Devine	Glen Zipfel
Wealtha Sowle Weicht	Claude McGrew
Cora McNeal Harman	Rob Gillis
Carl McGrew	Chas. Elya
Ralph Blass	Tina Elya Waller
Erman Shank	Burton Myers Johnson
L. C. Smith	Clela Kirk Torrance
Mabel McCrory Welty	Alta Waller Howe
Pearl Wyrick Taylor	Bess Kemery Wolfe

And NOW?? Well quite a number of the old crowd have long since passed to their final reward.

I am sure that those still present find pleasure in recalling the old days; not that we would desire to return to those times,—because we can still look forward to each tomorrow with keen anticipation of the little pleasantries that today's world affords.

But we shall always be fond of "The Hills of Home."

## Night Crawlers Club

The "Night Crawlers Club" was organized in Angola, somewhere around the year of 1908. The exact date is not known.

Mr. Clint Beatty and Mr. Charles Beatty were prominent in the organization of this club, and the first meetings are said to have been held in the Beatty Bakery; Mr. Hank Wirick and Mr. Erastus Williamson, being two of the known charter members. Below are listed the "By Laws" of the club.

### "By Laws"

The Club shall be known as the "Night Crawlers Club," the purpose of which is to promote good fellowship.

#### Article 1.

Sec. 1. The Club shall meet the first Tuesday in April and the first Tuesday in September of each year.



2. It shall be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to send returnable post cards, with the words, "Coming" "Yes-No," previous to each meeting and the signing of "yes" by a member shall constitute an obligation on his part to pay for a meal.

3. Meeting shall adjourn at 12 o'clock midnight.

4. It shall be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to drop from the Register, resident members who fail (3) three times to answer the roll call at regular meetings.

#### Article 2.

Sec. 1. Officers shall consist of a President and a Secretary-Treasurer.

2. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed by the President.

3. President shall be elected by ballot. His term of office shall be one year only.

4. The election of President shall be at the April meeting and he shall take his office at the September meeting.

5. Special meetings may be called by the President or by a petition signed by a majority of Club members.

#### Article 3.

Sec. 1. Dues of 25¢ each shall be added to each meal at regular meetings and placed in the Treasury.

2. The President and Secretary-Treasurer, shall decide necessary warrants to be issued.

#### Article 4.

Sec. 1. Each year, two members according to seniority in the Club, shall bring in one Candidate each, 1936 year "Candidates" shall be chosen by first two members whose names follow the last members who have chosen Candidates. This procedure shall be followed from year to year.

2. It will be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to notify such members at the April meeting who are entitled to candidates.

3. Initiations shall be held at the September meeting.

#### Article 5.

Sec. 1. Cards may be played, primarily for entertainment. Any game in which the "ante" is used, such ante shall not exceed 5¢.

#### Article 6.

Sec. 1. A grievance committee shall be appointed by the President.

2. This committee shall consist of three which shall be a secret committee.

3. Their duty will be to inquire into all difficulties that may arise and reconcile same if within their power, if not within their power, and sufficiently grave in character, they shall report same to the Club for such to act on as the case may require.

#### Article 7.

Sec. 1. Intoxication while attending a Club meeting is absolutely forbidden.

2. The penalty for such violation will be decided upon by the Grievance Committee and must be voted upon by the Club.

#### Following is a list of Members

Dr. S. F. Aldrich	Edward Kolb (Dec.)
Frank Andrews	Guy Kemmerling
Lynn Andrews	Albert Leas
Barton Arnold	Harley Lucas (Dec.)
John Adams (Dec.)	Herbert Menzenberger
Paul Albright	(Dec.)
Clinton Beatty (Dec.)	William Maxfield
Glen Beatty	Ross Miller (Dec.)
Fred Beard	Kenneth Miller (Dec.)
Charley Beatty (Dec.)	Harley Mann, Sr.
Lee Bender	(Dec.)
William Booth	Harley Mann, Jr.
Carlton Chase	Harold Martin
Roy Cox	Wardley Morse
Harry Cook	James Unger
Jesse Covell	Dale VanWagner
Milo Certain (Dec.)	Erastus Williamson
Archie Jackson	Henry Wirick
Clarence Jensen	Joe Weicht
Ben James	Dean Wilson
William Keyser	Cleon Wells
Arthur Kolb (Dec.)	Ross Williamson

The information for the above chapter was obtained through the courtesy of Mr. William Booth.



## Illustrious Order of Scavengers of the World

By James R. Nyce

The Genesis of The Illustrious Order of Scavengers was not in the garden of Eden—unless it be remembered that Steuben County is such garden—but in Hank Wirick's restaurant, which was located where the A & P Store now is. The occasion, the meeting of some kindred spirits for a Goose supper. Frank Rekiesser, born and reared in Alsace-Lorraine, he of ready wit and salty tongue, a prosperous farmer residing just north of Angola, suggested to Clyde Carlin that some of the boys get together and have a goose supper at Wirick's restaurant, that he, Rekiesser, would furnish the goose. And it was so. There were assembled that memorable night—Ground Hog Day—Frank, of the House of Rekiesser, Clyde, of the House of Carlin, John, of the House of Yeagley, and Frank, of the House of Dole, if I am informed aright. The year was 1905. Before the night was far spent one of the number suggested that they meet annually, that a club be formed to be known as The Illustrious Order of Scavengers of the World, and that the membership be increased each year by a limited number—I think the number was four. And it was so. Each year begat additional members; the club waxed great and its membership extended throughout northeastern Indiana, made up of the great and near great. Its purpose was good fellowship. It was what has been termed by like organizations a gridiron club. The meetings were styled, "The Annual Roost and Roast." To qualify for membership one had to be able "to take it" as well as "to give it," for therein the foibles and weaknesses, the acts of commission or omission of the members were aired. No one escaped. The high spot of the evening centered around the election of officers, always a spirited and hotly contested affair; the principal contest being the election of The Most Grand Illustrious Scavenger. Numerous were the nominations and the seconding speeches, both laudatory and derogatory of the respective candidates, but always with the same outcome, the election and re-election

from year to year of Frank Rekiesser, for it was around Frank the club centered, it being tacitly understood that in his passing the club would cease to be. And it was so.

The following appeared on the front page of the Muckraker, the Official Organ of Scavenger Club, and Safety Valve for Community Grouches. Angola, Indiana, Groundhog Day, 1931.

### TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL ROOST AND ROAST OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS ORDER OF SCAVENGERS

And Their Neophytes, the Woodchucks and Carrion Crows—Twenty-sixth Annual Roost and Roast at Masonic Hall on the Evening of February Second, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-one

Most Grand Illustrious Scavenger  
Frank Rekiesser

Grand Illustrious Vulture and Money Grabber  
Fred Emerson

Master of Order of Turkey Buzzards  
Dr. P. N. Sutherland

Chief Croaker  
Mort Waddell

Ring Master  
L. N. Klink

Muck Raker  
E. D. Willis

Algernon Alwood  
Big Belly Baker  
Baker Beatty  
Bughouse Beatty  
Bluffer Brokaw  
Caustic Cline  
Crummy Cline  
Crabber Casebeer  
Cigar Eater Carlin  
City Covell  
Country Covell  
Cutup Cox  
Cutie Croxton  
Crook Croxton  
Dub Dirrim  
Doughnut Dodge  
Dummy Dole  
Duck Foot Dole  
Dude Douglass

Effuvius Emerson  
Fussy Folck  
Fourflusher Fisher  
Foxy Fox  
Got Gay  
Good Gosh George  
Gingerale Gibson  
Gringo Gilbert  
Grit Gnagy  
Guts Golden  
Galvin Goodwin  
Hog Helme  
Happy Hershey  
Hardhead Hetzler  
Havem Handy  
Jog-along Jarrard  
Klatter Klink  
King Kolb  
Kutie Kolb



Krusty Kratz	Notso Nyce
Lundy Lane	Ornery Orewiler
Lost Love	Pus Parker
Little Latson	Popeyed Parsell
Meatcutter Mast	Profiteer Patterson
Mawruss McClew	Pinkie Patterson
Merry Merriett	Polecat Pence
Mick Menzenberger	Plug Pollock
Floyd Gibbons Morley	

#### **Rekissocker**

Razz Rowley	Stringem Sheffer
Shingle Shank	Tige Taylor
Senator Shank	Winegar Wells
Slaughter Shank	Wildcat Wilder
Showoff Shaughniss	Woozy Williamson
Soft Soap Sherrard	Wop Williamson
Song Starr	Weary Willis
Stuffem Stevens	Willie Willis
Shoddy Stiefel	Wigway Wolfe
Skinney Strock	Woody Wood
Stick-'em-up Stafford	Yipper Yeagley
Sycamore Stump	Zanzibar Zimmerman
Sourdrip Sutherland	

#### **Woodchucks**

Tarbound Taylor	Souse Shrider
Creaking Crowl	Chictone Clark

#### **The Carrion Crows**

Loblolly Lindstrom	Kuklux King
Monkey Mott	Rattle Ransburg

#### **Ornery Members**

Howard Townsend	William P. Endicott
Frank Nicolai	Frank Dunten
Frank Nelson	Howard Mounts
Herbert C. Willis	Dr. E. O. Hall
Oscar Foellinger	Blaine Hamilton
Arthur K. Remmel	John Yeager
H. C. Springer	D. M. Link
Mort Waddell	

Always the high-light of the meeting was the annual address of The Most Illustrious Grand Scavenger, which was always a vitriolic attack on the Republican party, Frank being one of a very few of the members that was an ardent Democrat.

It was good fun. The membership of the club could be designated as a "Who's Who" in northern Indiana. There was the Honorable Samuel Slick, Judge of the U.S. District Court, the Honorable A. C. Wood, Judge of the Indiana Appellate Court, the Honorable Howard L. Townsend, Judge of the

Supreme Court of the State of Indiana, the Honorable Dan M. Link of the DeKalb-Steuben Circuit Court, the Honorable Walter Stump, Judge of the DeKalb Circuit Court, the Honorable Clyde C. Carlin, Judge of the Steuben-LaGrange Circuit Court, the Honorable Louis Fairfield, the Honorable Raymond Willis, U. S. Senator, Burton Handy, President Tri-State College, Oscar Rakestraw, Publisher, Harvey W. Morley, Publisher, and a host of the finest chaps one would care to meet.

The founding fathers have gone to their reward, and in fancy I can see them, as they separately and severally approached The Great White Throne, bowing their heads and saying: "Father, forgive us our trespasses, and forgive us if we smile a little when we think of the Scavenger Club."

### **The Nonpareil Club**

*By Ellen Moss Rodebaugh*

In the year 1885, a group of young men of Angola organized a club and gave it the name "Nonpareil Fishing Club." The charter members of the group were: George Kemery, Frank Grass, Dr. J. Edw. Waugh, Frank Carver, Otto Sholtz and Warren Moss. This group was never altered except by death.

The club built a cottage at Paltytown, now known as Lake James Beach, which still stands, and is the oldest one there. For many years they held annual outings there. However, the high-light of the year was a two week camping trip, when they loaded the boats with two large tents and all the necessary duffel and withdrew from civilization, usually to Deer Island in Snow Lake or to Eagle Island at the upper end of the third basin of Lake James. At that time there were none of the roads around the lake which we now have, and they were really out of reach.

They usually took Sumner Bixler along to do the cooking. It was up to the boys to provide him with something to cook. The stories of the fun they had on those trips were exciting and amusing.

The members divided the summer months into two week periods and drew lots for the period each could use the cottage with his family. The cottage was equipped with necessities only. Each family must take bedding and anything to dress up the cottage, which they thought necessary, and of course, food. A dray was usually hired to move

the family out and back. There was no going back and forth to town. Once there, you stayed the two weeks. In fact no one wanted to come into town, even when the allotted time was ended.

For thirty years the membership of the club remained unbroken. Many things transpired during those three decades to unite members in bonds of unseverable friendship.

After the families were grown and scattered and some of the members had left Angola, the club still held an annual dinner and it took something more than common circumstances to keep a member from attending. To meet together, and retell the stories of their fun and achievements and of the big one that got away, never ceased to bring pleasure to each member of the club, which to them was the Nonpareil of all clubs.

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## The Screwballs of America

*By G. Kenneth Hubbard*

The Greeks had a word for them, most families are ashamed of them, and those of their ilk are frequently rounded up and placed in institutions provided—but in Angola, Indiana, it is an honor and an eagerly sought privilege to be a Screwball. This organization, now nationally known, was formed a few years ago for the commingling and exchange of ideas among those who are slightly off-center, or deviate from the beaten paths, and do things just a little differently from dull, ordinary, and normal human beings. Lawyers, teachers, bankers, doctors, garage-owners, bookkeepers, and paper-hangers of Angola are on the honored roll of membership.

Sadie's Cafe, gathering place of the early morning downtown coffee-drinkers, will go down in screwball history as the spot where this famous or infamous organization had its germination. One frosty December morning in 1936 Kenneth Hubbard, young Angola lawyer, and Yost Johnson, who incidentally later married Sadie, thus assuring himself of a continuing source of morning coffee, were having their second cup when A. D. Schultz, an acquaintance and radio man, came in. After a few moments' chat and the usual cup of coffee he sauntered out. Pondering on the highlights of Mr. Schultz' conversation, both Hubbard and Johnson agreed he was a fitting candidate for Chief of the Screwballs, should such a group ever be organized.

Thus was born an idea and, more as a joke than for any other purpose, Hubbard and Johnson outlined plans for such a club. Membership cards were printed and the coffee-drinkers at Sadie's were enrolled as charter members of the world's first Screwball club.

Officers were elected as they walked in. A. D. Schultz, the man whose screwy antics gave birth to the idea, was named Chief Screw. Charles Griffin, neighboring garage-owner, was made Vice-Screw, with the more profitable offices going to the men whose genius was responsible for the Screwball Club. Thus Kenneth Hubbard was made Recording Screw, and Yost Johnson Financial Screw.

For a long time the matter rested there, with Brother Screwballs addressing each other as such each morning over the coffee cups at Sadie's. Too many other local citizens were carrying on affairs in slightly balmy style to be overlooked, and gradually this highly elastic organization expanded until it included so many members that a banquet was the logical procedure. Officers were chosen to serve on a local council and it was deemed wise to incorporate under the laws of the State of Indiana, and a copyright was obtained for the title "Screwballs of America, Inc."

While Mr. Hubbard was in Indianapolis attending to this little detail news leaked out to the city papers, and in a short time mail in unprecedented amounts was pouring in to Angola headquarters. People all over the country felt their unusual ideas and screwy performances entitled them to membership. Among those applying to be so classified were a lady parachute jumper in Minnesota, a Missouri college professor, a California reporter, a Baptist preacher in Oklahoma, a lady sit-down striker in Kentucky, a Louisiana traffic manager, two Akron, Ohio, college girls, a Pennsylvania editor, a Brooklyn dock worker, an Erie, Pa., alderman, a Jacksonville, Fla., policeman, and a Dallas, Tex., inventor. In passing, one might add that all inventors are automatically qualified as screwballs by virtue of their calling. Nine colleges, through one or more of their professors, have manifested interest in the club, which should be of concern to all educators.

Among the great and near-great who belong to the Angola group are Raymond E. Willis, former U.S. Senator, who probably qualified during the heat of a political campaign when he walked into



a Gary, Indiana, hotel lobby and asked to borrow writing paper and the use of a typewriter from a fascinating and blonde young woman at the desk. After completing the finishing touches on a red-hot and sizzling Republican campaign speech Mr. Willis thanked the young lady and told her she had been privileged to aid the Republican senatorial candidate. In dulcet tones she sweetly informed him that the paper and typewriter he had just used were part of the office equipment of the Democratic campaign headquarters. Mr. Willis is now a life member of the Screwballs of America, Inc. The roster also registers the name of Dr. George W. Gillie, Indiana's former Fourth District Congressman. Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, and O. C. Hulet, president of the Burlington Liar's Club, are listed as honorary members.

According to a Chicago newspaper the aims of this organization are aimless, but this statement is not in accord with statements of Screwball officials, who say their plan is to keep people's minds off wars, national crises, and other weighty problems—a sort of carry-on of Will Rogers' plan to cheer up everyone but Congress. So far there's been a lot of carrying-on but no luck with Congress, although they've had lots of fun.

The objective of the organized Screwballs is

good fellowship with no cost—a screwy idea in itself. Personal prestige, a lean purse or a fat one, position, or station in life, have no bearing on membership qualifications.

Each new member is required to state in full the reason he is allowed the privilege of being a screwball. To rid himself of a persistent salesman one merchant wrote a check for 89 doughnuts, which he gave as full payment on the order. Now, both that merchant and the banker who unquestioningly handed out 89 good dollars on that check are respected members of the Angola club. The townsman who departed for a winter vacation in Florida without bothering to take along any money won his listing as a member when he was forced to return home to obtain the necessary cash, for he found one has to pay and pay, even on a Florida vacation.

It would appear that citizens of this country, the last stronghold of the foolish and free, are anxious to be diverted from the everyday grind of business, war, weather, and worry. The Screwballs of America, Inc., formed to give the legal right to be balmy, have given them the long-awaited chance to be as screwy as they desire, and now they can be legally loony.

## Miscellany

### Along Life's Road

The people of Steuben County are a heterogeneous lot. They have diversified wants and ideas, but they are also interested in those of others. Many people, especially women, maintain scrapbooks from which the Publisher of this work has gleaned much. Ora Butler, of Salem Township, has a unique scrapbook which he captions "Along Life's Road." He is one of the incorporators of REMC and his scraps about REA are many. One of these is his address to the members of that organization at its 12th Annual Meeting.

#### "The New Year 1951"

"Thanksgiving and Christmas are over and the New Year looms ahead; and what do we want for this new year? First, last, and all the time, we want peace on earth, good will to all men everywhere. Is there anything in this wide world that we want more than that? Without peace, everything seems futile. With the war clouds gathering and the birthday of the Prince of Peace fresh in our hearts and minds, we find ourselves weighing the one against the other, and suddenly our hearts are filled with peace—a peace that no power on earth can take from us.

"What we are reaping today, has already been sown long ago. Our big task just now is to attend to the kind of seed we sow, the kind of farming we do in our own individual gardens of our hearts. And every day is a time of sowing. How I wish it might be possible for those world leaders in this great conflict and world disturbance to assemble together and in one great voice, sing that old song—"Take Time to be Holy"—that what we possess in this world will be found at the day of our death to belong to someone else, but what we are, will be ours forever.

"We live and move as a part of the majestic quilt changes—daily miracles that sometimes find us blind and deaf to them. There is a stillness in the hour before dawn that lifts the spirit, leaving night behind, toward the promise of a new and changing day. Have you watched the sun rise? Did you see the faint light etch the tops of distant hills,

grow amber, rose, and gold, until it brimmed over, flooding the valleys and fields with warmth that sent fog ribbons rising? Did you see the surge of autumn colors creep over the woodlands like the serene benediction upon the aging year? Have you stood by a clear, still pool of water where a spring bubbles up from below and watched falling leaves move gently upon the water? Have you ever walked through an apple orchard at blossom time with its pink-white petals and breathed its delicate perfume?

"It is the mystery of life itself, and whosoever answers a few unanswered questions in its progress, from blossoming time to re-blossoming will hold the key to that mystery called LIFE. It seems to me, the greatest trouble with this atomic age is the lack of quietly natural trends that lie close to the grass roots and deep in the hearts of men. Those are the quiet experiences that work upon the mind and life and heart of all whose senses are attuned to understanding.

"It would help, I guess, if every thinking person would spend a half hour every day just quietly grateful for the natural beauties that surround him.

"There are trends toward fellowship among peoples of all creeds and colors; there are worldwide groups who find expression in action and prayer; there are those who give health and those who give calloused hands for the highest good of their family, nation, and world."

(Note: REMC is the Rural Electrification Membership Organization, an Indiana group of REA.)

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### Barbers and Beauticians

*By J. Mack Fisher*

The first record of barbers in Angola gives us the names of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Snyder, in 1864.

There was a negro by the name of Abraham Lincoln Jones who opened a shop here in Angola, this being shortly after the close of the Civil War, when Steuben County was very "Anti-slavery" minded, having sent 1165 men from here to fight the cause of slavery and dis-union.



During the era of the old time barber shops these palaces of tonsorial splendor were popular meeting places for the men to gather, the shops being kept open until late in the evening. Many a fine "yarn" has been spun among the men gathered around the old pot bellied stove while waiting "their turns."

Following is a list of the barbers of Steuben County, with apologies to any who may have been forgotten:

Bert Jarrard	Walter Ward
Arlo Casebeer	Frank Bolich
Chas. Slade	Erastus Williamson
Conn Mote	Dan Pixley
Simeon Dirrim	Ford Snyder
Chas. Waller	Loren Clay
Moe Mitzman	Fred Weaver
Red Umbaugh	Homer Bartholomew
Jim Denman	Travis Martin
M. Barron	Walter Pepple
Brice Clark	Arthur Woreham
Miss Myrtle Fetch	Don Collins
Glen McCool	Maynard Conkey
Sherm and Carl Hoot	Lyston Keyes
Oliver Brown, sons and grandson	Bert Schlie
Grover and Oliver	Otis Coons
Perry	Toad Latson
John Adams	Garvice O. Clarke
Gale Platt	Gerald Fuller
Earl Rinehart	Bob Dunivan
Geo. and Frank Sutton	Robert Scott
Henry Wirick	William Healey
Shorty Stout	Corwin Ingalls
Andy Coy	Clyde Dally
Pete Umbaugh	Jacob Swauger
Lester Porter	Theodore Champion
Fred Maugherman	Walt Woreham
P. Snyder	Edson Wilson
Cleon Brown	J. B. Helms
Ronald Hutchins	Frank Hill
William Helm	Leo Coons
Albert Leas	Smith Williams
Will Burkett	Otis Case
Ed. Grambling	T. Brown
Otto Sewell	Frank Dunivan
Lut Bros.	Lee Bender
Milton Brokaw	Boyd "Shorty" Stover
James McKillen	Mac. Williams
Will Purdy	J. Mack Fisher
Paul Begin	Orval Sewell
	Earl Jordan

Jay Denman	Lee Young
Durward Clark	Seymour Collins
Carl Swank	Bert Robison
Bill Unibecker	Henry Weaver
Albert Renner	Minard Headley
Artemus McClish	Keyes
Alphons Burress	Orville Miller
David Shannour	

### Beauticians

Mrs. Susie Williamson, now living on North Wayne Street in Angola, had the first Beauty Shop, which she opened about the year of 1923. This shop was located where the McBride Dry Cleaner establishment now is. Later, she moved her shop to the Beatty Bldg., being assisted in her work by her daughter, Malinda Williamson Andrews, who now resides in Detroit, Michigan. Many persons will remember how they had their hair "marcelled," some going twice a week to have this done.

After Mrs. Williamson discontinued her business, the space she had occupied in the Beatty Bldg. was taken over by Mr. and Mrs. Julius Waltenberger, Mr. Waltenberger being the only man to operate a Beauty Shop in Steuben County. They are still operators, but have moved their business to 709 N. Wayne Street.

Following is a list of the present day beauty shops, together with some of the ones of past years. Apologies to any we may have overlooked:

Name	Owner
Beauty Box at Fremont, Indiana	Enid Merriman
Circle Salon, Angola, Indiana	Lois Conners
Colonial Beauty Shop, Angola, Indiana	Esther Hall
Kurly-Q, Clear Lake	Rolene Kaufman
Manor Beauty Shop, Angola, Indiana	Billie Jo Reese
Polly's Beauteria, Hamilton, Indiana	Marilee Ford
Rainbow Beauty Shop, Angola, Indiana	Lucille Whitman
Vera's Beauty Shop, Fremont, Indiana,	Vera Albright
Waltenberger's Beauty Shop, Angola, Indiana	Mrs. Julius Waltenberger
Marie's Beauty Shop, Pleasant Lake, Indiana	Marie Deetz
Ruth's Beauty Shop, Ashley, Indiana	Ruth Blessing
Wright's Beauty Shop, Hudson, Indiana	Glynlyn Wright

Nona's Beauty Shop, Angola, Indiana, Nona Ulmer  
 Ellen's Beauty Shop, Orland, Indiana, Ellen Stoldt  
 Betty's Beauty Shop, Angola, Indiana, Betty Penix  
 Cupie's Beauty Shop, Orland, Indiana,

Cupidell Statler

Letha's Beauty Shop, Hamilton, Indiana

Letha Hanselman

Ruth's Beauty Shop, Hamilton, Indiana

Ruth Walberry

Ginny's Beauty Shop, Angola, Indiana

Virginia Brokaw

On January 8, 1948, the Beauticians of Steuben County organized a Hair-dresser's Unit here in Angola. It is called the Steuben County Hair-dresser's Unit.

Recognition is given here to Mrs. Lucille Whitman, who helped in supplying information regarding the above named operators.



## Believe It or Not

*By Loretta Sanders*

Stranger than fiction are the facts of life. A perusal of the public records of any Court House will prove the point beyond a doubt. This writer for 22 years has accumulated oddities recorded for posterity in the Steuben County files and is relating some of them here in the hope they will encourage others to search out the hundreds of other gems waiting to be found, smiled at, and passed on for others to enjoy.

Prior to May 20, 1785 land was claimed, entered or purchased from the United States Government and described by metes and bounds. Temporal landmarks, trees, etc. were frequently used as corners or witnesses to corners. Tracts were often irregular in shape to encompass particular acreage. As witnesses were destroyed or removed, and as land values rose, and population increased, controversies arose over boundary lines and it became necessary to devise a new method of land survey.

By Act of Congress May 20, 1785, a system was authorized by which the nation was subdivided by a series of east and west base lines and north

and south meridians. Intermediate divisions at 6-mile intervals were run from these lines and meridians blocking out what are called Congressional Townships 6 miles square.

By the Ordinance of 1787, through which Congress governed the area northwest of the Ohio River, including the Indiana Territory, provision was made to reserve one full 640 acre section of each Congressional Township for school purposes. It was suggested that proceeds from the sale of section 16, plus a sufficient number of acres of an adjoining section to make the full 640 acres should any section 16 be fractional, be set apart as a permanent Congressional School Fund.

Loans and investments are made from this fund and the resulting interest, only, is used for school operations. The Steuben County Congressional School Fund in 1955 amounts to \$16,774.68.

Fractional townships, less than six miles square, resulted from the fact that Steuben County is bounded on the north by Michigan and on the east by Ohio, and the distance allotted to the state of Indiana is not sufficient to make full townships. It follows that fractional sections are found in all such fractional townships.

Jogs or off-sets in the road are frequently made in township line roads. This occurs wherever it was necessary for the original Surveyors to re-set instruments to compensate for the curvature of the earth as their instruments are drawn to the magnetic north pole.

Legend has it that counties were formed of a size to permit all of its residents to travel to the county seat to pay taxes and return home on the same day.

That portion of Steuben County covered by lakes, marsh, and lowland, was considered of little or no value, classified as "Swamp Lands," and granted to the State of Indiana (free) by Swamp Land Patent.

Authority for this action was based on the Act of Congress approved September 28, 1850, called "An Act to enable the State of Arkansas and other States, to reclaim swamp and overflowed lands." Application was made by the Governor of Indiana on January 26, 1852, and on November 1, 1852, Millard Fillmore, President of the United States, signed and delivered to the State of Indiana the Patent by which 197 tracts totalling 8135.84 acres of Steuben County land was conveyed without cost to the State of Indiana.



Tracts were then sold by the State of Indiana to individuals as other lands were sold. Geo. W. McConnell purchased 130 of these parcels. Patents were issued by Joseph A. Wright, Governor of Indiana and N. Hayden, Secretary of the State of Indiana, for the major portion of Steuben County's Swamp Lands in October, 1853.

Included in this so-called "worthless land, unsuitable for cultivation" are such tracts as these:

Lakeside Park on Turkey Lake which sold to George W. McConnell as 3.15 acres, more or less, for \$3.94, and is now assessed for taxation at \$5080.00 exclusive of the 9 beautiful summer homes built thereon. (Assessed values are intended to approximate one-third of actual value).

107 acres of a farm in Jackson Township, adjacent to Hog Back Lake, now assessed for \$2000.00, sold to Daniel M. Gale for \$158.11.

40 acres of section 22, Steuben Township, now assessed for \$1370.00 sold originally for \$50.00.

160 acres in section 36, Fremont Township, assessed for \$3180.00 sold to Mr. McConnell for \$200.00.

56.30 acres of the Tri State Airport sold to Geo. W. McConnell for \$70.37.

Another "special award patent" was granted for Bounty Land. "In pursuance of an Act of Congress approved September 28, 1850 entitled 'An Act granting Bounty Land to certain Officers and Soldiers who have been engaged in the Military Service of the United States,' 80 acres being the North West fractional quarter of Section 25 in Jackson Township (bordering on the northwest shore of Otter Lake) was awarded to Joseph Sowle, Private in Captain Newton's Company New York Militia, War of 1812." He assigned his certificate to George W. McConnell who was issued patent for the land November 1, 1854.

Other "stranger than fiction" documents recorded in Steuben County's official volumes are shown briefly in the following paragraphs:

Daniel Duesler purchased a farm from Thomas N. Brown for \$3600.00 to be paid for in annual deliveries of peppermint oil on the farm to the seller, at New York City prices after deducting cost of carriage and storage. Total quantity of oil was 2178 pounds to be delivered over a period of six years.

Daniel Woodbury recorded a patent which was sold to Israel Morley for \$200.00 on December 1,

1847. The patent instrument reads, "Patent for the manner of gearing by means of cogs upon both sides of the main wheel and two pinions upon one and the same inclined shaft, one at each end of the shaft one of said pinions connecting with the cogs on one side of the main wheel and the other on the opposite side. This mode of gearing renders the machine much stronger, more easily worked, more durable and less liable to injury by a sudden start of the horses and is supported at less expense than any other mode yet discovered."

Samuel Barry and Sarah, his wife, conveyed to the Trustees of the North Eastern Indiana Literary Institute and to their successors in office forever a tract of land in Orland bounded as follows: Beginning at a point directly in front of the center of a foundation now laid for the building of said Institute on the west line of the north and south road and running thence north along the line of said road  $4\frac{1}{2}$  rods, thence west in a right angle with said road 16 rods, thence south parallel with said road 9 rods, thence east in a right angle with said road 16 rods, thence north along said line of road  $4\frac{1}{2}$  rods to the place of beginning, containing 144 rods of land.

Duplicate No. 11004 was issued for 80 acres in the northeast corner of section 8, Pleasant Township, now occupied by Fasts' Subdivision on Jimmerson Lake. The original sale price was \$100.94 paid by Lewis St. Ores of Monroe County, Michigan Territory on May 28, 1836. Tracing the cash value of this tract we note an assignment of the certificate to George McKay of Toledo on June 21, 1836 for \$300.00. On February 28, 1837, W. A. Collins of Cooperstown purchased the certificate for \$500.00 and reassigned it to Lewis St. Ores who sold it to Charles G. McKnight for "a valuable consideration." McKnight suffered the first apparent loss as he sold to George W. Merchant for \$250 on November 17, 1837. No further cash price is traceable, however it is of note that the 1955 assessed valuation for this tract is \$2890 for the land and \$11,590 for the buildings and improvements thereon. Assessed values represent approximately one-third of the value of property at time of assessment.

Cornelius Gilmore and his wife Elizabeth conveyed to the "Board doing County Business for said County of Steuben and their successors in office forever for the purpose of a public burying ground" a tract of two acres in section 23, Pleas-

ant Township, now occupied by the "Old Cemetery" in Angola. In the same deed they conveyed Lots 9 and 24 in the Town of Angola (northeast corner of Gilmore & West Streets) "for the purpose of erecting thereon an Academy and meeting house for the worship of Almighty God by any religious denomination first erecting such meeting house to the satisfaction of said Board doing County Business." On the same day Thomas Gale and his wife Martha conveyed to the same Board Lots 71 and 72 in the Town of Angola "now occupied as the site of a Court House and Jail for the purpose of such site and no other" and Lots 1 and 2 in said Town of Angola for an Academy and a Church as provided in the Gilmores' Deed. (Lots 1 and 2 are now occupied by the Congregational Church Parsonage and the Roy Ellis Residence, respectively, and Lots 71 and 72 are still the site of the Court House.

Progress (or lack thereof) in accurately describing land is pointed up by these illustrations:

March 4, 1846 Charles Van Wormer and his wife Betsey conveyed a tract of land in section 21 Pleasant Township (now occupied as part of Buck Lake Ranch) by this description: "Being a part of section 21, township 37 north, range 13 east, commencing at a point on the quarter line 21 rods south of the center of the front door of said Sherwood's dwelling house, running thence north on said quarter line to a point opposite the center of the said door, thence running east along the center of the Concord Road 23 rods; thence south 12 rods; thence west to the place of beginning, containing an area of 2 acres and 61½ sq. rods."

December 19, 1857, George W. Wickwire and Rebecca, his wife, (the great-grandparents of this narrator) sold to Joseph A. J. Sowle an acre of land in Angola now a part of the present site of the Pet Milk Company. The deed reads "The south line of said acre of land shall be about 12 feet north of a black oak stump on the west side of the Angola and Coldwater road and about 7 or 8 rods north of the first little bridge in said road north of the town of Angola near Thomas Gale's New Board Fence, said stump is about 18 inches through, said acre shall be and run from said stump north 12 rods parallel with said road along the center of said road and run from the center of said road west said width of 12 rods perpendicular to the center line of said road far enough to make one acre of land."

Hiram L. and Phebe A. Smith, on November 2, 1860, conveyed to Lucinda Markle a tract since assumed to be at Flint although no section, township or range is mentioned. The complete description reads, "Commencing at the grave yard gate, thence running north 12.10 chains, thence east 7.44 chains, thence west of south 13.66 chains, thence west 84 links to the place of beginning, supposed to contain five acres. It being a part of the real estate sold to the said Hiram L. Smith by Philo Clark guardian of **miner** heirs of John Thomas, late of Steuben County, deceased."

Also at Flint, on March 2, 1863, Benajah B. Long and Orsavella, his wife, sold to Wallace Clark, "A half acre lying directly west of a Town Lot which was occupied by Sylvanus Kellogg as a Tavern Stand at Thompson's Mills in said County being about 10 rods north and south and about 8 rods east and west in the Village of Flint."

Included in a deed of February 19, 1877 from Orin B. and Matilda Moss to Myron C. Brown for a lot in Angola now occupied by the Catholic Church is the following provision: "with the right of an alley on north side of above description sufficiently wide so that a team and wagon can turn on it, said alley running westerly to a street running north and south on east line of Section 27."

On June 15, 1944, conveyances were made for an Island in Hamilton Lake described as "An Island located in the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 33, township 36 north, range 14 east, consisting of about one half acre of land more or less, located in Hamilton Lake, the pump located on said Island, described as a monument, is located on said Island as follows: (then follows an accurate location of the pump by Surveyor's bearings.) Also conveyed by the deed is the road or right of way "known as the Shoestring" and a landing on the Shoestring.

On November 8, 1944 (this is not a mis-print) a deed was executed for several tracts in section 25 in Millgrove Township (near Nevada Mills) including one whose boundaries are "fixed" as "beginning at the center of the dredge ditch near the footbridge across the same at a point marked on the bank by a plow point; thence in a southwesterly direction 56 feet to a plow point in the bank of the old channel of said creek; thence westerly and northwesterly along the bank of said old channel 120 feet to a willow tree on the bank of pond No. 1



of said property; thence northwest 337 feet following the high bank of the minnow ponds No. 1 and No. 2 to a willow tree with three trunks on the north end of Pond No. 2; thence northeasterly to bank of Pond No. 3 a distance of 200 feet; thence northwesterly following the shore of Pond No. 3 a distance of 170 feet to the center of the dredge ditch marked on the bank by a plow point; thence easterly and southerly following the center of the dredge ditch to the place of beginning, a distance of 726 feet; containing 1½ acres more or less."

Among the early real estate mortgages filed for record is one pledging 107.45 acres and the crops during the year 1842 to secure certain promissory notes including "one of \$50 to be paid in one month and a half work at the common price during the months of July and August next and the remainder in merchantable grain the 15th Jan., 1843 at A. Towns now dwelling house at the market price; one of \$50 to be paid in merchantable grain at the same time and place as the above;" a series of notes of \$118.75 each to be paid in good salable wheat delivered at Orland Mills at cash price the 15th of Jan. 1844, 1845, 1846 and 1847.

Land in Section 7, Jackson Township, in "the Village of Winchester being in Block Number one and Lots Number 1, 2, 7 and 8" were mortgaged to secure payment of \$163.33 and interest as follows: \$25.00 to be paid merchantable young meat stock on October 1st next; \$50 in merchantable wheat delivered to Carletons Mill on November 1st next; and \$88.32 to be paid on December 1st next which payment if "duly made will render this conveyance void." This mortgage was given April 18, 1843 and released September 30, 1845.

In a chattel mortgage dated September 10, 1842, three yoke of oxen with ox yokes and rings for the same, 20 head of sheep and one breaking "plough" were given as security for payment of a judgment of \$8.00 and costs "on the docket of R. A. Gains Esqr." together with notes for \$103.00 and to enforce the mortgagor's promise to "make 800 rails this fall." This mortgage remains unreleased at the date of this writing.

The first Mechanic's Lien noted was recorded May 11, 1843 and notified the owner of a "saw mill and its appendages and appurtenances" in Scott Township that a lien was placed thereon for "work and labor, care and diligence bestowed on said mill" as a millright for \$92.25 representing 61½ days labor at \$1.50 per day.

Michael Bower contracted with Hermon Johnson December 13, 1842 at Jamestown "to do 15 acres of breaking up of new ground for the said Hermon Johnson . . . in a good workmanlike manner . . . between the 15th day of May and the 15th day of July 1843 . . . Johnson to clear the ground by the time above specified." Bower's contract included a forfeiture bond of \$50.00, an acknowledgment of payment of \$45.00 for the work and security in a bill of sale of a yoke of oxen and one cow. The bill of sale is attached to the contract showing sale of one yoke of oxen to Hermon Johnson for \$45.00 and one cow for \$15.00.

A chattel mortgage was given to secure payment of \$1500.00 and listed as security one 2-horse wagon; two 40-gallon kettles; one 90-gallon kettle; crops from 105 acres of land; two ploughs; two iron-tooth harrows; one cow; promissory notes totalling \$48.20 (being 7 notes varying from \$1.00 to \$15.00); "also all my accounts and demands amounting to \$400.00; also 15 pieces of calico, 9 pieces of muslin delane; one piece of pilot cloth; one piece of satinette; one piece of mixed broadcloth; two pieces of fulled cloth; 2 pieces of vest buckram; 7 pieces of oil-cloths; one half dozen vest patterns; one piece of larrage; one dozen pieces of wilton;" and also sundry articles of store goods amounting to \$100.00 . . . also real estate and the store building at Salem Center.

An insurance policy dated March 9, 1844 at noon insuring Sullivan U. Clark's dwelling for \$1000.00 and combination barn and public building for \$200.00 for a period of six years was recorded. The premium was \$84.00 with a provision that insured should pay a proportionate share of losses should the company become insolvent. The company named was Indiana Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

Dennis Depue June 20, 1843, permitted George Johnston to build and maintain a dam on certain land adjacent to "a certain pond or body of water commonly called 'Lake George' with the right to overflow certain areas of land for the purpose of propelling machinery and for no other purpose."

Ebenezer Rheubottom and Deborah his wife conveyed 80 acres of land in Scott Township to Ira Bundy with an elaborate list of granting phrases including, "grant, bargain, sell, alien, remise, release, convey, confirm, unto said second party" and "second party, his heirs and assigns, shall and

may, at all times hereafter, peaceably and quietly have, hold, use, occupy, possess and enjoy the above granted premises and every part and parcel thereof with the appurtenances without any let, suit, trouble, molestation, eviction, or disturbance of the said first party, heirs or assigns, or of any other person or persons lawfully claiming or to claim the same; and that the same are now free, clear, discharged and unencumbered of and from all former and other grants, titles, charges, estates, judgments, taxes, assessments and encumbrances of what nature or kind soever."

Most unusual perhaps, is an agreement dated September 29, 1840 in which a father "doth put and bind out his son to learn the art of husbandry." The son, who consented to the arrangement, was to dwell with the second party, serve him until August 29, 1853, and "the said boy shall well and faithfully serve his said Master, keep his secrets and enywhere at all times readily obey his lawful commands, he shall do no damage to his said Master nor wilfully suffer any to be done by others and if any to his knowledge be intended he shall give his said Master reasonable notice thereof, he shall not waste the goods of his said Master, nor lend them unlawfully, to any, he shall not play at cards, dice or any other unlawful **gaim**, he shall not contract matrimony during the said term, he shall not haunt or frequent taverns, tipling houses or places of gaming, he shall not absent himself from the service of his Master, but shall in all things and at all times carry and behave himself as a good and faithful boy ought during the whole time." In return, the boy was to receive "18 months schooling, \$100 in money and two suits of 'wooling wearing **ppearrel** one suitable for Sundays and the other for working days," good and sufficient meat, drink, clothing and lodging and other necessities fit and 'convienants' for such a boy during the time aforesaid."

It is to be noted that as late as 1954 representatives of the State of Indiana presented for recording deeds for portions of the East-West Toll Road with descriptions of which the following is a sample:

"The tract herein referred to shall be the right-of-way of the Indiana East-West Toll Road as described below and located by surveys and shown on center line plan plats on file in the Recorder's Office of Steuben .....Indiana, The following descriptions(s) (is) (are) of parcel(s) of land ly-

ing between the plan centerline and the plan right of way line on the above designated Toll Road. Measured distances along plan centerline are indicated by Station Number and plus, each Station Number denoting 100 ft. in length. Widths of parcels are indicated in feet, measured at a right angle from plan centerline at designated Station Number and plus; however, when Station Number and plus is followed by the letters P.L.; F.L.; F.D.; L.L.; or C/LS, (indicating Property Line, Fence Line, Field Division, Lot Line and Centerline of Stream respectively) or other identifying notations, it shall mean that the boundary line follows said identified line from plan centerline to plan right of way line, as follows: DESCRIBED FROM CENTER LINE OF INDIANA EAST-WEST TOLL ROAD

From Station to Station	Left (N) Side of Centerline	Right (S) Side of Centerline
8020+18.0 P.L. to 8019+40±		150'
8019+40± to 8022+00		160'
8022+00± to 8029+87. P.L.		150'
8020+18.0 P.L. to 8029+87 P.L.	150'	

(end quote )! This was the entire description as first drawn. Since no section, township or range was indicated, the County Surveyor, Auditor and the local Abstractor were unable to locate the land. The deed was rejected and later re-presented with the additional information: "Containing 7.4 acres, more or less, the same being a part of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 33, Township 38 North, Range 14 East." This narrowed the area to somewhere within a 40-acre tract in Fremont Township, Steuben County, Indiana. Ultimately, upon the decision of the Chief Engineer of the Indiana Toll Road Commission, the land was surveyed, an accurate description was prepared, the revised deed duly recorded, and the Toll road is being poured.

We must observe in closing that, though the passing of time brings with the change of the calendar many marvellous improvements and developments, human nature remains basically static. We insist on repeating most of the errors of our forefathers with remarkable regularity. It might be well if we examine our foolishness, laugh at ourselves, blush a bit, and turn over a new leaf this 1955.





## Journalism in Steuben County

*By Hon. Raymond E. Willis*

(Note) Factual material for this chapter was taken from: History of Steuben County, Indiana (1885); Steuben County Atlas (1898); History of Northeastern Indiana (1920); from the files of the newspapers and from personal interviews.

Nearly a half century of time elapsed after the establishment of the first newspaper published in Indiana, the *Western Sun*, at Vincennes, before many newspapers began their appearance in the extreme northern part of the State. Early day newspapers were the offspring of men holding strong convictions of how the developing country should be directed and desiring some outlet for the expression of their convictions. The prospective financial returns could not have been inviting, but the desire to have some influence in shaping the course of the new country had most powerful appeal.

In the middle of the nineteenth century the realignment of established party groups because of political and social problems, supreme among them being the problem of preserving the Union and the collateral social issue of human slavery, prompted strong convictions among serious men with the attendant desire to give them expression. Consequently, this period encouraged the establishment of newspapers, some of them only feeble attempts, but some of them continuing to have an important influence on the course of our social fabric down to the present.

For several years subsequent to the establishment of Steuben County as a civil entity, notices having legal requirement were published in newspapers printed in LaGrange County and in Fort Wayne.

The first venture in journalism in Steuben County was the *Indiana Review*, established at Angola in 1848 by a Mr. Morton. It lasted less than a year, and in 1856 the *Hoosier Banner* was issued by Brown and Hunter, later sold to Edward Dewey, and after a brief existence was discontinued.

About that date the region embraced in Steuben County passed through an era of liberal thinking and free action, doubtless due to the disturbed political surface. Two men bearing the names of Bowman and Loudon established the *Truth Seeker*, a spiritualist and free thought paper. A little later it was revived in New York City and a quarter of a century later had a liberal clientele of supporters of those philosophies throughout the United States, but it passed into oblivion before the turn of the century.

### The Steuben Republican

The first newspaper establishing permanency in Steuben County was the *Steuben Republican*, having an unbroken record down to the present date. J. M. Bromagen, who had been printing a newspaper in Auburn, brought his plant to Angola and established the *Republican* in May of 1857. It encountered the usual difficulties of a pioneer newspaper and early changed hands several times.

Within the first year Charles Case, a candidate for Congress in the district, rescued the paper from its financial difficulties and placed it under the management of S. C. Chapin. After the following election, Charles C. Mugg acquired it. The next publisher was James B. Parker, followed soon afterwards by W. H. H. Day. From its beginning the paper espoused the cause of the new Republican party and was a vigorous supporter of Abraham Lincoln for President. In 1861 Messrs. J. E. Rose and Francis Macartney took it over, and three years later it was sold to J. J. Minor. Succeeding publishers in order were O. W. Parish, J. A. Myrtle, R. H. Weamer, and it was then leased to W. C. McGonigal.

On April 8, 1874, Germ Brown, a returned soldier, and Francis Macartney acquired the paper and established it on a substantial and greatly improved basis. In June, 1875, Macartney was succeeded by James U. Miller. Mr. Brown died in August, 1878, and the following spring Mr. Miller acquired Mr. Brown's interest from his estate. Five years later on April 1, 1884, the *Republican* was sold to W. W. Ferrier and Oscar F. Rakestraw, who had conducted the *Steuben County Journal* for three years with considerable degree of success. The plant was moved from the third floor of the brick block on the south side of the public square to the second floor of a new building built in the southeast corner of the square, adjoining the court

house yard, where it has been located to the present time.

Mr. Rakestraw continued an active interest in the paper until his death in 1922, having associated with him for part times in that period, Mr. Ferrier, Frank T. Burnham, Rev. A. S. Hale, and D. R. Best. In 1907 he formed a partnership with Raymond E. and Edward D. Willis, who consolidated their paper, the Angola Magnet, with the Republican. They became editors and managers of the Republican on the death of Mr. Rakestraw in 1922.

In 1925 a stock company was formed to publish the Republican and the Angola Herald. The Willis brothers were the active managers of the corporation and newspaper until Raymond E. Willis was elected to the United States Senate in 1940 when Edward D. Willis became sole manager and editor of the Republican. At the close of World War II, his son, Lt. Col. Henry E. Willis, joined the paper as associate editor and manager. Beginning in 1908, Edward D. Willis has established the longest period of active management of the newspaper. A Spanish American soldier, he has held a place of prominence in the activities of the community. During his term as mayor of the city of Angola from 1940 to 1950, the light and water utilities were revamped, and the present fine city administration building was erected.

Established almost contemporaneously with the beginning of the Republican party, the Republican has consistently upheld the philosophy of the party down to the present day. The paper maintains a well covered news service in the principal centers of the county, and is now an eight column newspaper, averaging sixteen pages each issue, with a circulation approximating 4500 copies.

The paper has never missed an issue, has been published from the same location on the public square for more than sixty years, is the oldest business institution in the county, and has increased consistently in its quality, service, and usefulness. It occupies today a most honored and important place in the community life of Steuben County, and is frequently mentioned by newspaper authorities as one of the outstanding weekly newspapers of the country.

### **The Angola Herald**

The next newspaper to gain permanent establishment in Steuben County was the Angola Herald, which was started in January, 1876, and has a record of uninterrupted publication since

then. The founder was Isaac L. Wiseman, who, after a short time, took into partnership with him William B. McConnell, of Angola, and later a prominent jurist of Fremont, Ohio. Wiseman soon disposed of his interests to McConnell, who formed a partnership with William K. Sheffer, and in 1878 Mr. Sheffer became the sole proprietor and editor.

In July, 1889, the paper was acquired by two young lawyers, Frank Blattner and John F. Shuman, of Waterloo. The following year they sold it to A. S. Roberts. Blattner went to the State of Washington, where he became a successful lawyer. Shuman established law offices in Waterloo, Angola, and later in Orlando, Florida. He was associated with an Orlando newspaper until his retirement and death. After a year's ownership, Roberts sold the paper to W. D. Odion, and in December, 1891, W. K. Sheffer again gained sole ownership and continued in that capacity until 1906, when he sold the paper to Ernest C. Klink and Elbert C. Green, who published it for a period of about two years and then sold it in December, 1908, to Harvey W. Morley, of Grant, Michigan, who save for a brief period in 1924 when it was operated by Charles Rockwell, of Bicknell, Indiana, has been its editor to the present time.

Under the management of Mr. Morley the paper made notable advancement, both in its plant equipment and from a journalistic standpoint. It is an eight column paper averaging sixteen pages each issue. Special features from time to time have marked its advancement. During World War I the paper was sent, without charge, to every Steuben County boy in military service, more than six hundred copies, carrying in its columns a personal letter from the editor to the boys in the field.

Associated with Mr. Morley in writer's capacity at different times was Mrs. Kathryn Searles, who was the daughter of a prominent Indiana editor, and Mrs. H. S. Johnson, whose feature, "Letter to Elizabeth" gained high favor with its readers. For a brief period the paper was published semi-weekly, but reverted to a weekly publication as most suitable to all the factors involved. Its weekly features now include a spicy commentary article, "Nosing Through The News" by Mrs. K. C. Emerson, as well as a feature article entitled, "Something To Talk About," by Mr. Morley, along with his editorials, supporting as it has uninterruptedly, the philosophy of the Democratic party.



Mr. Morley has also served in an editorial and publicity capacity with the State Democratic Organization and Administration. He has been most active in community affairs, establishing in 1912 a service club, which adopted the name "The Rotary Club" and was the parent of the present Angola Club of Rotary International.

### **The Steuben Printing Company**

Confronted with the increasing expense incident to the production of modern day newspapers, and observant of the duplication of effort in papers published in separate plants, in 1925 the proprietors of the Steuben Republican and the Angola Herald, together with a group of public spirited business men, formed the Steuben Printing Company, a stock corporation, for the purpose of publishing the newspapers and engaging in a general printing business. Currently, the organization personnel includes Raymond E. Willis, President; Harvey W. Morley, vice-president; Henry E. Willis, secretary; Edward D. Willis, treasurer; and Mrs. Charles A. Yotter, director. Others who have at times served as officers and directors were: Clyde C. Carlin, A. C. Wood, Floyd B. Faulkerson, Royal J. Carpenter, and Mrs. Royal J. Carpenter. The number of stockholders at present is thirty-two.

The Steuben Printing Company has served the community well in the purpose for which it was organized. The political policies of the newspapers are retained in the respective former ownerships. It has developed a printing plant that is modern in every way and much superior to most plants found in cities of comparable size. It supports a payroll that is of important economic advantage to the city. The same plan of combined operation has been adopted by many prominent newspapers of the country.

### **The Angola Magnet**

The Angola Magnet was established in 1893 by Elias O. Rose and Clyde C. Carlin as a Republican newspaper, giving Angola at that time three weekly newspapers. After a year's time had elapsed, Mr. Carlin retired to devote his entire time to the study and practice of law, in which profession he attained high distinction. His interests in the Magnet were absorbed by Mr. Rose's daughter, Winifred Gale Waugh, who assisted him for a few years in the operation of the newspaper.

In the Spring of 1898 Mrs. Waugh relinquished

her interests in the paper and a half interest was sold to Raymond E. Willis, of Waterloo, Indiana, who moved to Angola, and was thereafter active in the operation of the paper. In 1902 Mr. Rose was appointed postmaster to Angola, and Mr. Willis assumed complete management of the Magnet.

In 1907 Mr. Rose's interest was purchased by Edward D. Willis, of Waterloo, a brother of Raymond E. Willis, and they continued to operate the paper with a considerable degree of success until a project was arranged to discontinue its publication, and the Willis brothers associated themselves with Oscar F. Rakestraw in the publication of the Steuben Republican as the only Republican newspaper in Angola. This partnership continued until Mr. Rakestraw's death.

### **The Fremont Eagle**

More than sixty years ago on December 29, 1892, Warren D. Wells began the publication of the Fremont Eagle in the village, now town of Fremont, in the northeastern part of the county. He had been a student at the Fort Wayne Methodist College and at Valparaiso University, and then operated a printing plant at Fort Wayne. In the venture at Fremont he was ably assisted by Mrs. Wells, who became prominent in many activities of the community. They built a brick home and plant on South Wayne Street where the paper was printed for nearly half a century, serving well the community of the northeastern quarter of the county and adjacent southern Michigan and eastern Ohio. Mr. Wells served as county recorder from 1908 to 1912.

After Mr. Wells' death in 1934 the paper was continued under the management of their son, Henry E. Wells, the latter later succeeding to full ownership. He sold the paper in 1947 to Howard Flaishans, who is continuing its fine reputation as a substantial small town newspaper in eight page tabloid form. The plant has been modernized and has been moved into commodious quarters on East Toledo Street in the center of business activities.

Prior to the establishment of The Eagle, a newspaper was published for a brief period in Fremont by Thomas Barnard.

### **Orland Newspapers**

The first newspaper published in Orland was started on May 15, 1894, and was named the Orland Echo. It was printed in the Bronson Jour-

nal office with W. S. Barnard as the local editor, Mrs. Wealthy Jeffrey continuing in that capacity for three years, when the paper was discontinued.

In 1900, Vernice N. Briner, of Hamilton, established the Orland Zenith, later selling it to Arthur D. Wells, of Fremont, in 1912. An adequate printing plant was developed, but after a few years' experience Mr. Wells sold the goodwill and subscription roll to the Bronson Journal. He moved the plant to Garrett and engaged in commercial printing, and later was connected with the John Welding Paper Company and Millcraft Company as salesman until his death in February, 1952.

For a good many years Orland has been well served in newspaper needs by departments in the Angola Herald and the Steuben Republican.

### **Hamilton Newspapers**

The first newspaper published in Hamilton was The Graphic, continuing for three months in the spring of 1892. A year later the Mailton Advocate was started by Thomas P. French, who published it until April 24, 1894. It was conducted by French & Gibbs until Jan. 1, 1895, when the management was taken over by P.D.L. Alspach, who passed it over to S. B. Dustman in October, 1895, and it was continued by him until May, 1897.

Later, the Hamilton Hustler was established by Vernice Briner, but the plant was destroyed by fire and Mr. Briner moved to Orland and established the Orland Zenith.

In July, 1901, Clif Johnston and Mr. Keefer came from Ossian, Indiana, and started the Hamilton News, which has continued uninterrupted operation from that date. It was owned and operated by Mr. Johnston until November, 1945, when he sold it to Horace W. Husselman, who operates it as a six-column, four page meritorious village newspaper.

### **Hudson Newspapers**

The Hudson World was started about the time of the development of Ashley to advocate the advantages of Hudson as a village community. The founder was Charles Spake, who was succeeded by W. G. Kist and then by Price Russell, who sold it to O. M. Smith and repossessed it about a year later and sold it to E. W. Minor, who discontinued the publication and moved the plant to Garrett.

In 1897 R. H. Weamer, who had been publishing the Auburn Gazette, moved his complete printing outfit to Hudson and started printing the Hudson

Banner, being assisted by his daughter, now Mrs. Sadie Brugh, of Auburn. After a few years, because of failing health, Mr. Weamer discontinued the publication, but continued the job printing business for a while. He died in April, 1909, having spent the last two years of his life with another daughter in Goshen.

The community has been served since, by correspondents to papers published in nearby communities.

### **The Ashley Times**

The first newspaper published in the town of Ashley was the Ashley Times founded in 1893 by George W. Strayer. The town had been designated as a division point of the new Montpelier-Chicago branch of the Wabash Railroad and Mr. Strayer, enthused with the future possibilities of a town at that point, came from Montpelier and built the first frame building within the town site on the northwest corner of what is now known as Roads 727 and 4. The location of the town was then designated by a sign board bearing the word "Ashley" placed in the top of a strawstack on a farm across the road to the south.

Mr. Strayer was a vigorous man and did much toward the early promotion of the new town. After several years his printing office was destroyed by fire, but he organized the Ashley Printing Company and continued publication of the paper. After his death in 1903, Mrs. Strayer continued the business with the assistance of Charles F. Kettering, but it encountered financial storms, and Herbert C. Willis, of Waterloo, was appointed its receiver and editor. Under his management the business was established on a self-supporting basis and at the sale a year later, Mrs. Strayer again acquired the plant. After a brief period it passed into the hands of J. F. Coss in 1904, who later sold it out to Harvey W. Morley, of the Angola Herald.

Not long afterward the paper was discontinued and John L. Gillespie started another paper there which he called the Ashley News, and in 1928 sold it to A. C. Wolf, of Montgomery, Michigan, who moved the plant into a building on the DeKalb county side of the street and conducted it with considerable success.

In 1931, Mrs. Wolf, who had acquired the ownership, sold the paper to William A. Smith who, in turn, the following year, disposed of it to Earl Deeter. Mr. Deeter removed the paper over to the



Steuben County side and changed the name to the Ashley-Hudson Times.

On July 1, 1950, Mr. Deeter sold the Times to John K. Seaton, of East Cleveland, Ohio, who, with the able assistance of Mrs. Seaton, continued the publication under the same name and at the same place. The paper is published in tabloid form, and it serves the community well.



## Traveling Salesmen: Our Good Will Ambassadors

*By Don Chaddick*

Steuben County has now, and has had, a small army which travels all over Indiana, and far beyond, aiding other friends of the county in spreading the name and fame of this unusual county and its progressive towns. They are proud of our recreational, educational, and other developments and accomplishments. A real salesman is, first of all, a good citizen, and Steuben County lists many of them. I have contacted the present day salesmen I know personally, asked the names of other men and women who have served this good county in that capacity, now or in the distant past, and with possible unintentional exception, which I regret, here is the list:

Ralph Caris	Tom Emerson
H. S. Snow	Harry Brown
Charles Priest	David Smith
David Jordan	Harold L. Clark
Andrew Ripich	Mrs. Virgil Lemmon
Don Wilfong	Ed. Mathena
Paul Burns	T. K. Law
B. L. "Duke" Healy	"Ike" Sassman
Laurel Whitlock	Mrs. Harris Hubbard
Robert J. Baldwin	James Waller
Edward Chaddick	James L. Webb
Ralph Murphy	Ed. Leininger
Charles Southern	Clyde Leininger
James Zuber	Bayne Morley
William Warren	Kenton Emerson
Virgil Lemmon	Glen McCool
Don Chaddick	Henry G. Giles
Harlow Brown	Fred Morley
George F. Harding	Edward Williamson, Jr.

William Peat  
Wayland Seely  
K. G. Walsh  
Fred Emerson  
Mark Ransburg

Ora Smith  
Shirley Waller  
Mark Woodhull  
Harry (Doc) Goodrich  
Elmer Webster Ransburg

Elmer Webster Ransburg of Hudson, traveled from Boston to Denver for the Daisy Implement Company of Pleasant Lake, about 1892 to 1895.

The factory made sleds and one of the first hand plows for gardens. The owners were Joseph and Daisy Weaver, and Jacob Mintzer.

Mr. Ransburg later sold pianos for Kranich and Bach of New York, and Kimball of Chicago.

In his later years, until about 1925, Mr. Ransburg represented the factory of his son Harper J. Ransburg in Indianapolis, selling glass and kitchen ware.

These are the salesmen, our ambassadors of good will, who make their home in Steuben County. They are the ones who keep the wheels of industry turning, who develop markets for many products, produced on our farms and in our factories. Yes, Steuben County is the Mecca for salesmen, for Nature has smiled on this section and blessed it with many opportunities for relaxation and beauty. They enjoy our beautiful lakes where they can completely relax and get their minds off their business. Even though they have driven many miles during the week, they are never too tired to take the wife and kiddies for a jaunt through beautiful Pokagon Park, ending the day with a wiener roast. They enjoy their yards, and flowers, for again nature has been good to them for their efforts. The Spring and Summer months are delightful, which are rewards for the effort put on the yards and gardens. Steuben County is a delightful place to raise a family, for it is not only a suburban community, but has a high cultural rating. The proximity to Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Toledo, and Indianapolis make the County a central location from which to travel. Summing it up we feel lucky and proud to be citizens of this wonderful fairy-land where the beautiful East meets the bountiful West. We will always spread the gospel of the natural beauties and the many assets of Steuben County wherever our travels take us, for it makes mighty fine talking.

Finally, let me list (with apologies) the following qualifications for a good salesman: "A salesman must be a man of mighty vision and ambition,

an after-dinner speaker, before and after dinner guzzler, night owl, able to work all day and drive all night and appear fresh the next day; learn to sleep on the floor and eat two meals a day and economize on travelling expenses so he can entertain his friends in the next town. Must be able to entertain customers, wives, sweethearts, and pet stenographer without becoming too amorous; inhale dust, drive through snow ten feet deep at 29 below zero and work all summer without perspiring or acquiring B.O. Must be a man's man, a model husband, a fatherly father, a good provider, a Plutocrat, a Democrat, a Republican, New Dealer, Old Dealer, and a Fast Dealer, a technician, politician, mathematician, and mechanic.

"He should be a sales promotion expert, create a demand for obsolete merchandise, be a good Credit manager, correspondent, attend all dealer meetings, tournaments, funerals, visit customers in hospitals and jails, contact all accounts every six weeks and in spare time contact new accounts, do missionary work and attend mill sales conferences.

"He must have unlimited endurance and frequently over indulge in wine, women, wind and gab; must know a wide range of telephone numbers in all the principal cities, have a car, attractive home, belong to all clubs, pay all expenses at home and on the road, hoping to have a few dollars left after paying taxes.

"He must be an expert driver, liar, dancer, traveler, bridge player, poker player, gin rummy hound, golfer, fisherman, financier, capitalist, philanthropist, authority on Palmistry, chemistry, psychology, physiology, dogs, cats, horses, blondes, quail and many others."

All of these attributes rolled into one contribute to the making of the Perfect Salesman.

### Lest You Forget

The Angola Newspapers not only contain all of the current news to keep you up-to-date, but they remind you of items of the dim and distant past which you should remember.

We have culled from the newspaper files from January 1, 1954, to our date of going to press, many interesting and important events. Following each item re-published here is the date originally published. This is only a partial report. To recall scores of such memoranda, see your Angola newspapers each week.

A housewarming was given Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Redding on New Year's Eve, who moved into their new home a week ago. (1930)

David Lee, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Imo Smith, of Cleveland, celebrated his second birthday on Thursday afternoon in the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Hetzler. (1930)

A fire which started from gasoline in the Charles Brock bakery in Orland on Dec. 30, destroyed an entire block which included the Masonic building, occupied by Jennings & Son as a general grocery store, and the Parker building, the Burnham hotel and the postoffice. The entire block was consumed within an hour. Men were rushed from LaGrange and Angola by the Valley Line to help fight the fire. (1910)

The building committee for the new Christian church let the contract for the construction of the church on December 29. The new structure will have a frontage of 103 feet on Maumee street and 89 feet on Darling street. (1910)

Thomas Owens was inaugurated as mayor of Angola on Monday afternoon, January 3. Orville Carver was the retiring mayor. (1910)

The Angola Choral Society has arranged to produce the comic opera "Pinafore" in Croxton Opera House January 18 and 19. (1910)

Letters from Mrs. Howard Long dated at Honolulu, Yokohama, and Kobe, announce the safe arrival of herself and daughter, Dorothy, in Japan. (1910)

Mayor William F. Shearer entered into the duties of his office on Monday, January 6. (1930)

Ed Patch, for a number of years fireman at the power house of the Northern Indiana Public Service Co., was found dead at the plant. Death was probably due to an internal hemorrhage. (1930)

Oliver C. Dickinson, 75, former baggage man at the Angola station, but for the past 34 years a resident of Hillsdale, Michigan, died in the Hillsdale hospital January 8, from a stroke of paralysis sustained in Waterloo Dec. 30. (1930)

Guy Sanders, near Loon Lake school house, brought to Angola last Monday, a bunch of 107 hogs that, at \$8.40 per hundred, brought the neat sum of \$1,726.82. (1910)

A record for low temperature in this vicinity was set last Saturday when thermometer readings were as low as 22 degrees below zero. The official government thermometer in charge of John B. Parsell read 17 degrees below zero at 8:00 A.M. (1930)



Victor Hendry, 80, who has been spending the winter in Orlando, Florida, was found dead in his room at that place last Wednesday. He was a life long resident of Angola. (1930)

On next Saturday the Angola Hatchery, operated by Carl and Ralph Redding will make its initial setting of the mammoth 100,000 egg capacity incubators for the 1930 production of chicks.

Lewis Jarrard, who is a member of this year's class in the school of journalism at Indiana University, left Tuesday from Angola on a trip to Havana, Cuba, where he will be engaged in publicity work for large plantation interests. (1930)

A large crowd of people assembled in and about Leininger's store last evening to hear the results of the voting contest that has been going on for the little automobile named the Browniekar. Glen McCool, son of James B. McCool, of this city, won the prize by receiving 17,842 votes. (1910)

George Ireland has kept track of the weather this winter and says we have already had nine weeks of fine sleighing without a break. (1910)

Waldo Sheffer will build a residence this spring on West Maumee street, a few feet east of the residence of Mrs. Elmer Cowan. (1910)

The outlook for the use of goods manufactured by the Universal Tire Protector company of Angola, is mighty promising and the demand is far in advance of the present capacity of the plant. (1910)

Senator Beveridge has recommended Raymond E. Willis for appointment as postmaster at Angola, to take effect at the expiration of Postmaster Snyder's term on April 1. (1910)

Harvey W. Morley, of Angola, will enter the spring primary to seek the nomination on the Democratic ticket for Representative in Congress from this district. (1930)

Louis W. Fairfield died at the home of his son, Almon, in Joliet, Ill., on Feb. 20. Funeral services for the former educator and congressman were held on Sunday. Mr. Fairfield was past 71 years of age. He was associated with Tri-State college for 45 years as a professor and vice-president. (1930)

Mrs. Cyrus Cline, 75, died at her home on Thursday, Feb. 20, after an illness of several days. Mrs. Cline, the former Jennie Gibson, was born in Vermont, and was married to Mr. Cline in 1880. (1930)

The highest price paid in any market since the Civil War was reached on the Buffalo market Thursday when the top notch of \$10.05 was reached for mixed and heavy hogs. (1910)

Grover C. Brown, 25, who was born and grew to manhood in Flint, this county, was killed in a street car accident in Grand Rapids on March 2. (1910)

Dr. H. E. Bucklen says that it is his intention to begin work in the spring on an extension of the St. Joseph Valley railroad line from Angola, to either Pioneer or Montpelier, Ohio. (1910)

Irvin W. Pence went to New York City last Monday to take a course in instruction in the Mergenthaler linotype factory, preparatory to operating a type-setting machine which will be installed in this office within a few weeks. (1910)

Clarence Pinchon, 27, son of Hiram Pinchon of Fremont, fell 1000 feet to his death on the Love Aviation Field at Dallas, Texas, March 8. (1930)

The other day while G. N. Bodley was gathering up some papers in the attic of a residence he recently purchased on W. Maumee street, he found a history of the Regulators of Northern Indiana, published in 1859. At that time LaGrange and Noble counties were especially infested with black-legs, burglars, and petty thieves to a great degree, and this organization did much to rid the country of the pest. (1910)

More than a mile of eight foot fence now encloses over forty acres of land in the northern part of Pokagon State Park for corrals for wild animals. The collection now includes two buffalo, two deer, six Canadian geese, and ten Mallard ducks. The fences have been built under the supervision of Supt. Jake Bergman. (1930)

Ollie Bassett has contracted for the purchase of the Gillis block on the south side of the public square. (1930)

Sarah Brown Peachey, aged nearly 84 years, died at the home of her daughter in Butler on Mar. 18. She was born in Isleham, Cambridgeshire, England. Among the survivors were four grandchildren, Gertrude Mitchell Ransburg, Mary and Achsa Peachey and Linda Peachey Shockley. (1910)

G. A. Smith, an experienced miller, of Sherwood, Ohio, has leased the National Mills for a period of two years and has taken possession. (1910)

Hon. Thomas S. Wickwire broke ground last Monday morning for a new residence on the Polly Sowle corner, at South Superior and West Gale streets. The building will be of native stone, and this work will be done by Evans Matthews. George Williamson will have charge of the Carpenter Work. (1910)

Maurice McClew is a candidate for the Republican nomination for state representative from the LaGrange and Steuben county district. (1910)

Mrs. Helen Gillis Devine was badly cut about the head when an automobile in which she was riding with Mrs. Homer Eastburn and Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer skidded on the ice and turned over south of Auburn. (1930)

Dudley Gleason, Jr., won second place in the district oratorical contest on the Constitution at Fort Wayne last Friday. (1930)

Mrs. Cary Covell and daughter Lucille entertained with a dinner on Sunday in honor of their son and brother, Wendell, of Indiana University. Those present were the Misses Malinda Shank, Leora Van Aman, Edith Mallory and Lurene Golden, and George Barron, Harry Klink, Wendell Jarrard, and the honor guest. (1930)

Rev. M. S. Marble has been returned here as pastor of the Methodist church. (1910)

Arthur Wells, eldest son of Recorder W. D. Wells, has purchased the Orland Zenith, and Editor Briner will move to Tennessee. (1910)

One of the most expensive fires of recent months occurred at the home of H. W. Morley, one block west of the railroad on West Maumee street. The roof was almost all burned off with the rafters and joists in the attic floor. (1930)

Cars on the Lake James line are now running from the public square. Ras. Williamson, who was conductor on the Sunday trains last season, will continue the same work this year. (1910)

R. E. Willis took charge of the Angola postoffice last Monday morning. (1910)

In the case of Glad Hendry and Howard Jackson vs. the United Machine Company for the appointment of a receiver, Doak R. Best was appointed receiver. (1910)

Dr. Donald A. Laird, director of the Colgate University Psychological Laboratory, has been elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, of London, in recognition of his applications of psychological science to arts, manufacturers, and commerce. (1930)

The population of Angola for the 1930 census is given as 2685. (1930)

A spark from the engine of the southbound passenger train caught in the roof of the freight depot last Friday evening, and within an incredibly short time the entire structure was a seething furnace of flames. A strong wind created a threat of

a general conflagration in the northwest section of the city. As many as a dozen buildings were on fire at the same time. The greatest loss aside from the freight depot was the grain elevator, which contained about 3500 bushels of grain. (1910)

Paul V. McNutt, dean of the law school at Indiana University, and past national commander of the American Legion, will be the speaker at the forty-seventh commencement at Tri-State college on June 5. (1930)

Francis Macartney died on May 7 at the age of 78 years. He was a former state senator, and was associated with Orville Goodale in the abstract business in Angola. (1910)

Fred Frisbie says he has decided not to buy a new automobile this summer, but to wait until he gets a little more money and then buy a pig. (1910)

Charles Zimmerman, former sheriff of Steuben County, and Russell Eckert, his former deputy and former night watch of Angola, were found not guilty of a conspiracy to violate the national prohibition law in the federal court in Fort Wayne last week. (1930)

In the reports given out in the primary last week it was stated that J. I. Farley and H. W. Morley were tied for highest place in LaGrange county with 143 votes each. The official returns showed Mr. Morley carried LaGrange county as well as Steuben County and by a good margin to spare. (1930)

Dr. Joseph C. Kimsey, father of W. E. Kimsey, of Salem Center, Mrs. Frank Dole, of Angola, and Mrs. Cora M. Parker, of South Bend, died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dole in Angola, May 16, at the age of 90 years. He was the grandfather of Mrs. Lois I. Marshall, wife of former Vice President Thomas R. Marshall, Wallace D. and Morton E. Kimsey, of Salem Center; Floyd J., Cora Mildred and Lewis Pyrl Dole, of Angola; Lois Bernice and Morton K. Parker of South Bend. (1910)

Prof. Bryant has resigned as president of Tri-State College. (1910)

Prof. L. M. Sniff, after an absence of a year in California, has returned to Angola to again become the president of Tri-State College by the unanimous vote of the directors of the college. (1910)

There has been added to the list of political announcements the name of Frank D. Hughes, of Salem township, for the office of county clerk. (1910)



Angola had two disastrous fires in four days. The administration building of Tri-State College was destroyed by fire Sunday night, entailing a loss estimated as high as \$100,000. During the fire the heavy slate roof collapsed and William Maxfield and Joseph Weicht, hosemen, were in the midst of the ruins. Maxfield's teeth were broken out, his face and nose lacerated, and his left cheek bone cracked. Fire in the city waterworks plant Tuesday morning almost ruined the plant and put it out of commission for pumping water. Water was pumped into the city mains on Thursday with the American LaFrance fire engine. Later in the day service was augmented by electric motors for pumping water, the emergency repair being done by I. H. Butz. (1930)

Thirty-three members of the senior class of the Angola high school were graduated May 28. The class included Ilene Holderness, Paul Groshon, Imogene Blackburn, John Zimmerman, Rilla Sowle, George Beebe, Glema Penick, Lyle Webb, Leona Folck, Lois Harman, Harry Cook, Edna Carpenter, Bonnita James, Lewis Williamson, Doris Clark, Donald Dick, Bessie Horn, Russell Burkhalter, Hope Sutton, Robert Ritter, Mary Malinda Niehous, Elizabeth Harshman, Perry Louis Gay, Margaret Mast, Opal Wright, Gordon Rose, Betty Graf, Martha Helme, Robert Stevens, Katherine Wilder, Charles Triplett, Ruth Guilford, and Henry Willis. (1930)

One day while Sol Cox was down in Florida he astonished the natives by telling them that more grass at the sides of the roads in Steuben county goes to waste every year than can be found in all the fields and roads of the state of Florida. (1910)

Last Saturday we counted sixteen automobiles on the public square at one time and all standing still, while two more passed through town at the same time at high speed. (1910)

Wednesday, June 1, at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Alice Leininger, will occur the marriage of her daughter, Bess, to James R. Nyce, a young attorney and secretary of the Universal Tire Protector Company, of Angola. (1910)

John B. Parsell and daughter, Florence, and Miss Grace Crain expect to leave soon on a trip to the west coast and Alaska. (1930)

Maurice McClew was nominated for state representative by the Republicans of LaGrange and Steuben counties in the joint convention held in Orland last Thursday. (1910)

A recent letter from Howard Long conveys the good news that through the kindly intentions of Hon. Newton W. Gilbert, Howard's address now is "Provincial Superintendent, Sorsogen Province, Philippine Islands." His headquarters are at the city of Sorsogen, only a short distance from Manila. (1910)

A. C. Wood, of Angola, was nominated on the first ballot for Judge of the Appellate Court of the second district in the Democratic state convention in Indianapolis. (1930)

At the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Gillis, occurred the marriage of their daughter, Dorothy Lee, to Mr. Charles J. Pilliod, Jr. (1910)

Cameron Parks will be the first aid and swimming instructor for the Red Cross program this summer. (1930)

Harry Klink received his state license as embalmer last week, and signed his name to his first certificate when he cared for the body of William Colomb, who drowned in Crooked Lake. (1930)

John Somerlott, formerly of Angola, is said to be playing great baseball this season. He is now playing first base for the Central League at Terre Haute. (1910)

Mrs. Nettie Boice, formerly of Orland and Angola, and widow of the late Grant Boice, who for a considerable time operated the theater in Angola, died after a brief illness at the home in Elkhart. (1930)

Charles Elya has leased the Croxton opera house for a term of years. (1910)

Donald Munger, 16, of near Montgomery, drowned in Clear Lake on July 4. (1930)

Charles Nestle, of Fort Wayne, is at Crooked Lake again. He is said to be the smallest man in the world, and is going to Detroit for the Elks convention where he expects to march by the side of the largest man in the United States, a member of the Elks. (1910)

Howard Jackson and Ed Williamson took a party of friends to Detroit in their automobiles to attend the Elks convention. The party consisted of Joe Brokaw, Glad Hendry, Will Jarrard, A. E. Wells, Wesley Davis, Clyde Leininger, and Charles Elya. (1910)

Esther and Ethel Wickwire returned last Wednesday from an extended stay on the Pacific coast. (1910)

The speed limit of eight miles per hour for automobiles is stretched from 50 to 100 percent in An-

gola this summer. There have been a few very narrow escapes from serious accidents but the future may not furnish so fortunate results. (1910)

W. W. Garn sold 76 pigs that weighed 16,340 pounds and at 8.75 per hundred brought him over \$1,400. (1910)

Negotiations were completed this week whereby Joe Brokaw purchased the Rollin Phillips room in the northwest corner of the public square and the land to the rear and north, on which he will begin construction of a new theatre. (1930)

E. D. Kemery has purchased the old Nyce home on the corner of East Maumee and Martha streets, and also the lot on the south side of Maumee just west of the residence of H. E. Wilder, and will move the home on it. (1930)

Announcement has been made that Newton W. Gilbert, now vice-governor of the Philippines, will soon be made governor general of the islands. (1910)

The managers of the Angola fair have been trying to negotiate with the Wright brothers for a three days exhibit with the aeroplane. (1910)

David Hughes, Jr., who for three years has been supervisor of music in the Steuben County schools, has resigned his position to accept a position as assistant supervisor in the Elkhart City schools. He will be succeeded by his brother, L. Rush Hughes. (1930)

The Oak Garage, owned by Alton Wilms, of Orland, burned at an early hour Monday. The building was a landmark, having been erected as a Baptist church in the early days of the village, then known as the Vermont Settlement. (1930) (See photo on another page.)

Burton Handy, formerly of Ray, and a graduate of Tri-State college, is teaching in a business college in Fall River, Massachusetts. (1910)

W. J. Lawrence, representing the New York Realty Co., is securing options on land north of Angola with a view to establishing oil fields. (1910)

Fire in Ford Willennar's restaurant at the southwest corner of the square destroyed the building and contents. This was the last frame building facing the public square, and was owned by John A. Booth. (1910)

N.E. Masters, manager of the Masters Oil and Gas Co., expresses himself as well pleased with the oil well brought in recently in the operations about Ashley. It is now producing about 20 barrels a day and gas enough to operate the plant. (1930)

Word has been received of the death of Fred Pilliod of Plainfield, New Jersey. He is survived by his wife and one daughter, his mother, Mrs. Charles Pilliod, a brother, Charles, in California, and three sisters, Mrs. Harold Kratz, of Angola, Mrs. Mabel Hobbs, of Largemont, New Jersey, and Mrs. Marian Kidney, of Cleveland. (1930)

George Rigdon, 16, of Morristown, Ind., was drowned in Clear Lake on August 11. Clarence Zurmuehlen, 18, of Fort Wayne, drowned in the same lake on August 14. (1910)

George W. Poland, 85, one of our pioneers, had the misfortune to fall and break his leg near the hip joint. (1910)

Byron Work has traded his one-lung Oldsmobile for a two cylinder, 24-horse power Auburn car. (1910)

Leland Ewers, son of Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt Ewers, will be sixteen years old next month, is over six feet tall and still growing. (1910)

The highest point in Steuben County has been determined to be on the George Goodrich farm in Pleasant Township, where the elevation is 1206 feet. A wooden tower was built southwest of Fremont when the Federal government made a survey in 1878, the height at this point being 1141.5 feet. The height on the Goodrich farm is about 65 feet higher than Hell's Point. (1930)

Charles Elya and Henry Eisele have purchased the fixtures of the Majestic theatre and will operate the same. (1910)

Fred H. Speers has purchased the Ernie Henwood city delivery system which has been so successfully conducted by Mr. Henwood for several years. (1910)

Mark Ransburg has gone to Pioneer, Ohio, where he will be principal of schools the coming year. (1910)

Henry Willis will leave on Saturday for Crawfordsville, where he will enter Wabash College in the freshman class. (1930)

Senator Powers has rented the John J. Kinney residence in the west part of the city to Misses Rilla and Mabel Files, two trained nurses of Fort Wayne, who will occupy the building for a hospital and also arrange to furnish nurses for this part of the country. (1910)

Saturday afternoon six young men, all under twenty-one stood in front of the court house, each one smoking a cigarette. A merchant looking for someone to work in his store would probably have



passed the entire bunch without a thought of giving such fellows employment. (1910)

The oil well on the Croxton farm is down 110 feet but work has been hindered again by gravel clogging up the drill. (1910)

Track records of 2:09 for pacing and 2:11 for trotting entries were set at the Angola Fair, this lowering all previous records on the Angola race track. (1930)

Earl Rinehart, Milo Sams, Conway Mote, Joel Latson, and Gust Poulos attended the ball game in Detroit. (1930)

Workmen are preparing a Tom Thumb golf course in the third floor of the Concert Hall for use of the fans this winter. (1930)

Miss Celia Case, of Orland, sailed a week ago from New York for Constantinople, and will spend the next six months touring the Holy Land, Egypt, and other Mediterranean points. (1930)

Carl Redding and Mast Brothers have recently had silos built on their farms. (1910)

John W. Somerlott, who is now playing baseball with the American League club at Washington, last week at Detroit in the eleven inning game of six to six, made two hits, one run, sixteen put outs, one assist, no errors, and participated in a double play. (1910)

Bert Brown, of Orland, who has been with Pryor's band at Asbury Park, N. J., has returned to his home. (1930)

James Austin, Jr., has been a member of the Pryor's band this summer. He joined Sousa's Band at New York City and will play with them during a tour they make through Alabama, Tennessee, and Kentucky. (1930)

John Berlien cut 103 shocks of corn, ten hills square, in one day recently and received six cents per shock. (1910)

Harry L. Sowle is having splendid success with his cigar factory in the north part of the city. His "Dan Patch" cigars have been on the market one month and 9,000 have been sold. (1910)

The city council took the preliminary step for the paving of the public square and West Maumee Street from the public square to the Lake Shore crossing. (1910)

The Steuben County Business and Professional Women's Club accepted with deep regret the resignation of its president, Mrs. Gladys Waltenberger, who is moving to the south. Miss Pearl Brennan was advanced to the office of president. (1930)

D. H. Buck has plotted Homeside Beach on the south shore of Clear Lake. Steuben County already has a score or more resort villages within her borders, for the beautiful shores of our numerous lakes offer the finest attractions possible for homes of this kind. (1910)

Ferdinand Himmel confessed to Sheriff Folck that he was guilty of the hold-up of the Angola garage, and he was brought to the Angola jail by the sheriff and his deputy. Himmel also confessed to a daring hold-up of Paul Burns a few weeks ago and named an Angola young man as an accomplice in both crimes. (1930)

L. N. Klink, the undertaker, sold a horse to Auburn parties for \$250. (1910)

Jesse Ireland began working for Lewis A. Hendry fifty years ago, and has been constantly in his employ. We congratulate both of these men on their ability to pull together so well. (1910)

Jacob Bergman, superintendent of Pokagon State Park, died of injuries suffered in an encounter with an infuriated buck deer in the wild animal corral at the park. John Diggs, superintendent of the state park system, was very painfully injured, but is expected to recover. (1930)

Alphonso C. Wood was elected to the Appellate Court of Indiana and on the same day his son, Theodore Wood, was elected prosecuting attorney for Steuben and LaGrange counties. (1930)

Mrs. George Hall, daughter Eloise, and son James, left on Tuesday morning for their future home in Santa Maria, California. (1930)

Mrs. Elizabeth Weir, 87, a pioneer resident of Hamilton, died at the home of her son, Frank, in Angola on October 10. (1910)

The Universal Tire Protector Co. finished up its first year's business and declared a dividend of 17 per cent on the capital stock. (1910)

The noon train going north and the afternoon train going south on the New York Central will be discontinued for lack of patronage. (1930)

Wendell Jarrard was accidentally shot in the right hand and side while out hunting with Dr. L. L. Wolfe. The accident occurred when Wendell pulled a gun through a wire fence. (1930)

James R. Nyce, formerly of Angola, was elected prosecutor of Elkhart county in last Tuesday's election. (1930)

Fire was discovered in the Ritz Beauty Parlor over the Ross Miller tailoring shop in the Metzgar building, by Maurice McClew and H. Lyle Shank.

All furniture and equipment of the beauty parlor, owned and operated by Mrs. Esther Suffel, was a total loss. (1930)

Workmen have abandoned the oil well north of town after reaching a depth of 300 feet. They will drive another well farther south on the J. A. Croxton farm just north of the fair grounds. (1910)

Thomas Owens' packing house shipped for the Thanksgiving market 120,000 pounds of turkeys and chickens, and employed 49 people in dressing the same. (1910)

Ziba Elston has been engaged to be Congressman Cline's secretary for the coming two years, Alphonso C. Wood resigning to look after his law practice in Angola. We understand the position was offered to Mr. Morley, editor of the Angola Herald, and also to James Nyce, of the Universal Tire Protector Company, but press of business kept them from accepting the offer. (1910)

Sleighs were out for the first last Saturday. (1910)

Burton Handy is principal of a business college at Fall River, Massachusetts. (1910)

Emmet Gilmore will retire from F. S. Day's Jewelry store on January 1 and engage in another line of business. (1910)

By a recent order all assistant postmasters in offices of the first and second classes were placed on the civil service list. This affects the Angola office and Assistant Postmaster Guy J. Shaughnessy will thereby be retained in the position. (1910)

Among the horses at the Angola fair grounds last summer was a three-year-old colt, whose dam was a mare owned by William Sheets near Crooked Lake. The colt could have been bought then for \$75. Brown McCool, a lad then fourteen years of age, son of Mr. and Mrs. James McCool, took a liking to the colt and coaxed his father to buy him, but the father declined. A few weeks later the colt was bought by Lafe Fenstermaker for \$100, and a short time ago was sold to Sid Gardner for \$275, who took him to the stock sale in Chicago two weeks ago where he cleaned up all in his class and was sold for \$1200. (1910)

While Walter Rumsey was shredding corn on Will Helme's farm east of Orland, his left hand was caught in the machine, cutting it nearly off and mangling the bones of the hand and forearm. Dr. Goodale, assisted by Dr. Grubb, of Mongo, and Dr. Lane, of Angola, amputated the arm a few inches below the elbow. (1910)

Paul P. Harris, founder of the world wide organization now known as Rotary International, spoke at the annual Christmas family night program December 26. He welcomed into the club Glen Beatty, as an associate of his father in Rotary membership. Theodore Wood was also introduced as a regular active member. (1930)

Theron Miller and Earl Dole, employed by the St. Joseph Valley line in Angola, and Waldo Sheffer, who works for the Lake Shore, together with their wives will leave for Florida, with a side trip to Havana, Cuba.

The Steuben County State Bank and the First National Bank of Angola have effected a merger under the name of First National Bank. The president of the new organization is Dr. Don L. Cameron; 1st vice-president, John A. Croxton; 2nd vice-president, Maurice McClew; cashier, Royal J. Carpenter. (1931)

Mrs. Willis W. Love was re-elected president of the Twelfth District Federation of Women's Clubs at the annual meeting held in Auburn last Thursday. (1931)

Samuel A. Wolfe, 90, father of Dr. Samuel C. Wolfe, died at his home in Angola Tuesday night. (1931)

The S. I. Dick stock of merchandise on South Wayne street has been sold to Otis Dick at Columbia and will be moved and consolidated with the stock there. The Angola store passes away with the death of the proprietor. (1931)

At the regular meeting of the Odd Fellows last Saturday night it was voted to build an addition to the building asked for by L. C. Stiefel, who for the past eight years has occupied the main building with his department store. (1911)

The committee chosen to negotiate for the purchase of the United Machine Co. building has concluded a deal whereby for \$12,500 the local shareholders will get control of the building. This amount, together with \$34,000 originally paid by local citizens for the erection of the building, totals \$46,500. The appraised value of the building set by the receiver was something over \$50,000. (1911)

Announcement was made last week that the Westley Corporation had purchased of A. C. Wood the lot adjoining the west side of Hotel Hendry, for a site for a modern theatre. T. M. Ellis, of Rockford, Illinois, owner of the corporation, was in Angola on Tuesday. (1931)

In the presence of a few immediate relatives and



friends in the study of Dr. John Humfreys, Miss Estelle Smith, of Muncie, and Mr. Dean Cline, of Angola, were united in marriage last Friday morning, June 5. (1931)

Glen, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Beatty, of Angola, and Miss Mary J. McElgunn, of Montpelier, Ohio, were united in marriage on Monday, June 15, at the Congregational church parsonage in Sandusky, Ohio, by the Rev. John Stein. (1931)

John Estrich, who a few months ago was a smooth faced youth at Tri-State College, now commands a salary of \$1500 as superintendent of schools. The same success could be attained by scores of Steuben County boys, if they would take advantage of the opportunity offered by our College. (1911)

Dorsey Folck and daughter Leona, went to Indianapolis Tuesday, where Miss Folck took a preliminary examination for entrance into the Methodist hospital school of nursing. (1931)

The old T. F. Wood residence-office building located just west of Hotel Hendry has been located on a lot on South Darling street and will be improved as a modern residence by Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Holland. (1931)

John Parsell, in a reminiscent mood on Monday, said that 59 years ago that day he attended Forepaugh's Circus in Angola with Flem Wilson and James Parsell. The show tent was pitched on lands occupied now by the Bert residence and those adjoining on South Wayne street. Someone gave the elephant a chew of tobacco, and in the animal's anger he swayed his trunk into the crowd and touched F. N. Wilson and scared Flem nearly out of his boots. Jim Parsell drank his first bottle of pop on that day and made the boys promise they wouldn't tell his folks. (1931)

An application was made by Sol A. Wood, of Fort Wayne, last Saturday morning, for the appointment of a receiver for the Angola Railway and Power Company. The petition sets out that there is outstanding against the company a mortgage for \$100,000 with property values of less than \$75,000. The Company operates the city lines in Angola, lights the streets and pumps the city water, and operates a traction line between Angola and Lake James. (1911)

Born in Angola, April 30, to Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Berlien, a son, Robert Kenton. (1911)

Frank Jackson shipped last week 24,000 pounds of old plow points, a car load. (1911)

James A. Moody, of York township, has announced himself as a candidate for the office of county superintendent of schools. Other candidates in the field are Homer Dilworth, the present incumbent, M. L. Shank, of Jackson township, and E. V. Shockley of Pleasant Lake. (1911)

Lewis Hershey closed a successful term of school in District No. 1 Jamestown township last Friday. (1911)

Negotiations were completed last Friday in which ownership of the fine E. S. Croxton home on West Maumee street was transferred to the Catholic order known as "Our Lady of Consolation," of Louisville, Ky. It was announced by the principals that the property would be used for a school of training of young men for the priesthood in the Catholic church, and will be known as the Friars' Minor Conventual. (1931)

Pilot Frank Johnson of Pueblo, Colorado, Tri-State student, and Miss Lorene Golden, of Angola, were injured Sunday afternoon when the plane in which they were flying came down at the edge of the south runway at the Tri-State Airport. According to witnesses to the accident Johnson had not gained sufficient flying speed when he took off into an unsteady wind. (1931)

Dr. L. L. Dill, of Angola, has purchased the Nevada Mills grist mill and water power, including 63 acres of ground usually covered with water at the mill dam. The consideration is \$6,000. The mills will be put in fine shape at once, and an unconfirmed rumor has it that the magnificent water power will also be used to operate a plant for generating electricity which will be offered for sale to people of Angola and other nearby towns. (1911)

This is the week for the Silver Grays to be at Lake James, but owing to the ravages of time, of the original ten when that club was formed in 1876 only Orville Carver and Henry Menzenberger were able to go. William Reeves and Hiram Freygang, recruits, make up the four who are there this week. Lawrence Gates, one of the original members, is about town in his usual health, but doesn't feel able to do much fishing. (1911)

There are many marriages in Steuben, but many are not of home folks. In 1950, there were 125 marriages of Steuben County people. In 1951, there were 136, in 1952, only 127. There were 180 in 1953, and 191 in 1954.

Melvin W. Kratz was installed president of the Angola Rotary Club last Friday evening. The

other officers included Irvin E. King, vice-president; A. E. Elston, secretary; Royal J. Carpenter, treasurer; Cary E. Covell, sergeant-at-arms. (1931)

The bungalow home on the south side of Fox Lake, operated by Dempsey and Belle Fox, was raided Saturday night by a posse of federal prohibition officers. A similar raid was conducted on a cottage rented to Hi Ferguson at Old Point Comfort at Crooked Lake. Ferguson was not there but Vera Doudt, who also lived there, was arrested on charge of possession of intoxicating liquors. (1931)

Levi F. Dygert, of Scott township, and Miss Bernice Balding, of Eaton Rapids, Michigan, were married by Elder Vernon Stauffer, Saturday evening, July 1. (1911)

Edward E. Freygang, 47, died June 28th in Angola. He is survived by his wife, the former Myrtle Wade, and one son, Carl. (1911)

Prof. and Mrs. Lorin Stukey have resigned their positions on the faculty of Tri-State College and will go to California, where they will do further research work in Leland Stanford University. (1911)

Lauren E. Smith began for Dr. L. L. Dill a survey from Nevada Mills to Angola for the erection of electric light poles. Two large dynamos will be placed at the falls at Nevada Mills and electric current carried to Angola. (1911)

Fire destroyed the implement building at the Angola fair grounds, loss about \$2,000. (1931)

Wayne Hughes, former Salem township teacher, has been elected to membership in the Phi Delta Kappa fraternity at Indiana University. (1931)

State Senator Stephen A. Powers, of Angola, is being presented by Auburn enthusiasts as a candidate for Governor of Indiana on the Democratic ticket. (1911)

The water in Lake James is going down, owing to a defect in the dam at Nevada Mills. Before this break the water was held at a higher point than has been known for many years. (1911)

The public school music department of Tri-State College has secured the services of Frances Elliott Clark, of Camden, New Jersey, for a lecture-concert with the Victor talking machine. (1911)

The village of Helmer was visited with a disastrous fire Tuesday night. Buildings destroyed were: The Stroman Hardware, Kent Grocery and General Store, and the Moore Barber Shop. (1931)

Business cards were carried in the copy of this newspaper of December 19, 1867, by the following

attorneys: Woodhull & Croxton; Palmer & Morrow; E. B. Glasgow; Leland H. Stocker. Other cards carried were: Francis Macartney, Abstractor; Dr. T. B. Williams and Dr. W. A. Wood; P. W. Russell, American House; Israel Kemery, Justice of the Peace; R. Legg, Livery Stable; and Joseph Longabaugh, Tailor. (1911)

Major Guy J. Shaughness assumed the office of postmaster in Angola on October 7th, succeeding Frank B. Rowley. (1931)

The Beechnut Autogiro, in which Amelia Earhart made the first continental flight of 10,000 miles, appeared over Steuben county Thursday forenoon, later remaining stationary over the public square, then settling to within 200 feet of the ground, from which it then climbed rapidly. (1931)

Plans have been prepared for the new high school building in Angola. (1931)

Allie E. Johnson, 58, head of Stiefel's Millinery Department, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Guy Ritter, on September 27th. (1911)

Harold Hoolihan left this week for Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he will enter the University School of Law. (1931)

Lewis Jarrard left Friday for Pasadena, California, accompanied by a friend from Chicago. They are hitch-hiking through. (1931)

Glen, 26, eldest son of Henry Carpenter of Jackson Township, was fatally injured when he was thrown from a horse Saturday night. In the fall the young man struck a fence post and suffered a broken arm and several broken ribs, one of which pierced a lung. He was brought to the Cameron hospital where his death followed some hours later. (1931)

James I. Williamson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Williamson, and Miss Grace Kennedy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Kennedy, of Van Wert, Ohio, were married at the home of and by Rev. John Humfreys, Sunday morning, August 2. (1931)

Cameron Parks, Red Cross life saving instructor for Steuben County, and Miss Mable Hinklin, of Garrett, were married at the home of Judge Clyde C. Carlin in Angola Tuesday afternoon, August 4. Judge Carlin is a cousin of the bridegroom and performed the ceremony at his special request.

Mrs. Mozelle Mondhank, of Butler, and Chester Tuttle, of this city, were married Saturday evening, August 1, at the home of and by Rev. John Humfreys. (1931)

The Indiana Highway Commission has assumed control of the two main streets in Angola traversed



by Federal Highways 20 and 27 under a provision of law passed by the last general assembly and will arrange for any repair or improvement of these streets through the city. (1931)

Fred Williamson has purchased of John G. Yeagley the fine brick residence on South Wayne Street, formerly owned by P. W. Russell. (1911)

Bert Ewing of Scott Township sold a load of alfalfa hay in Angola last Thursday, probably the first ever sold in town. James McCool bought it. (1911)

Mildred Thomas entertained eight of her little girl friends at a watermelon party at her home on South College street last Saturday afternoon, celebrating her sixth birthday. Those present were: Byrona Allison, Elizabeth and Laura Ferrara, Wilma Powers, Ketha Powers, Joan Elizabeth Stauffer, Helen Hendry, and Sarah Barron. (1911)

The last of the Wabash shops at Ashley are being torn down and moved to Montpelier. The removal of the division some three years ago was a severe blow to that thriving village, but the town has now taken on new life. When the men working in the shop left there were about 140 empty houses, while now, we are told, there are scarcely a dozen. (1911)

Harmon Freygang will give a musical entertainment with his new player piano at I.O.O.F. hall on Thursday evening of this week, beginning at 7:30. It will be free to all and everybody is invited to join in the good social time. (1911)

Marriage licenses have been issued the past week for Louis E. Menzenberger and Ethel May Rathburn, Clyde H. Hutchins and Sadie Moore, Orrin B. Hinkle and Carrie Dirrim, Archie E. Wright and Cora E. Lieberenz. (1911)

# County Buildings, Post Offices, and Financial Institutions

## Steuben County Buildings

*By Robert Brokaw*

### Court House

Prior to its organization as a separate county, Steuben County was attached to LaGrange County for civil and judicial purposes. LaGrange County was organized by an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, approved February 2nd, 1832, and included for Civil and Judicial purposes all the territory lying east of said county to the State line and south of said county and south of said territory to the line between townships thirty-three and thirty-four.

Steuben County was organized in pursuance to an Act of the General Assembly, approved January 18, 1837, which provided "That from and after the first day of May next, the County of Steuben shall enjoy all the rights and jurisdiction which belong to separate and independent counties." Provision was also made for the appointment of three Commissioners "for the purpose of locating the permanent seat of justice of said County of Steuben agreeable to the provisions of an Act to establish the seats of justice in new counties approved January 14, 1824. The Commissioners so appointed, or a majority of them, were to convene at the house of Cornelius Gilmore at or near the center of said county to carry out this provision. The Act also provided that the courts were to meet at the house of Cornelius Gilmore, or at any other place in said county, "until suitable accommodations can be furnished at the seat of justice thereof."

After some controversy as to whether the county seat should be located at the town of Steubenville or at Angola, it was finally decided that the location should be at Angola. Thomas Gale and Cornelius Gilmore, the platters of the original town of Angola, donated the site for the court house at the southeast corner of the public square. The deed for the land was made on December 18, 1841, and is recorded in Deed Record, Volume 2, on page 256 of the Steuben County Records, and was made by Thomas Gale and Martha Gale, his

wife, to the "Board Doing County business for said County of Steuben and their successors in office forever"; the deed conveys "lot number seventy-one and seventy-two in the town of Angola in said County of Steuben now occupied as the site of a court house and jail for the purpose of such site and no other." A two story frame court house was erected on this site.

The deed mentioned above also conveyed lots "number one and two in said Town of Angola, County aforesaid for the erection of an academy and a church for the worship of Almighty God thereon, by any religious denomination who will first erect said Church or Meeting House to the satisfaction of said Board doing County business." Apparently this provision was never fulfilled as the above lots number one and two were subsequently conveyed to other parties.

Other land east of the present court house was acquired by members of the Board of Commissioners of Steuben County and their successors in office by five different deeds between the years 1867 and 1879.

The original frame building was removed from the site and a new brick Court House, built in the style of Faneuil Hall of Boston, was erected in 1868. In the year 1937, the building was remodelled into its present form, adding to the south side of the building what is now occupied by the County Auditor's Office, the Commissioners' Room, part of the County Clerk's office, basement vaults for storage of official records, and rooms upstairs occupied as the Judge's Chambers.

The following county offices are located in the present Court House Building: Recorder's Office, Clerk's Office, County Commissioners' Room, Auditor's Office, Assessor's Office, Treasurer's Office, Surveyor's Office, County Agent's Office, 85th Judicial Circuit Judicial Court room, and Judge's Office. The Goodale Abstract Company has an office in the basement of the Court House, where it has maintained an office for over 50 years.

### County Jail

The first county jail was located at the rear and slightly east of the original Court House.



Made of hewn logs, it served its purpose as the county jail until the year 1839, at which time a frame building was constructed.

In March, 1866, the real estate where the present jail building is located was acquired by "Frederick Butler, Daniel H. Roberts, and John Dygert, members comprising the Board of Commissioners of Steuben County and State of Indiana and their successors in office," and was described as "Lots eighty five and ninety two in the Original Plat of Angola." In the year 1877, the present jail building was constructed of brick and stone. It has housed the jail, the Sheriff's Office, and living quarters for the sheriff since that time with very little alteration.

#### **Court House Annex**

To meet the needs of the growing community and to meet the need for additional office space for county use, the Board of Commissioners purchased the property which is now the Court House Annex. This property is located on the southwest corner of East Gale and South Martha Streets in the city of Angola, and was formerly owned by Hugh D. Wood.

On May 2, 1927, the County Commissioners at that time, Charles Shutts, Hugh L. Gilbert, and Ira Bowerman, as the Board of Commissioners, entered into a real estate contract for the purchase of the property for the consideration of \$7,000.00 from Darwin Harman and Lillie Harman. The contract provided for possession of the real estate to be given on or immediately after the 10th day of January, 1928, and also provided "that immediate possession was to be given of enough room to keep one large truck in the barn on said premises, and all that portion of said lots not occupied by the house and barn on said premises." The barn and some of the land is now used as storage space for the County Highway Department.

The Court House Annex houses the office of the Steuben County Department of Public Welfare and the office of the Superintendent of County Schools for Steuben County. The upstairs of the Annex is used as living quarters for the Custodian of Court House and Annex.

The real estate is lots 86 and 97 in the Original Plat of the town, now city, of Angola, Indiana.

#### **Steuben County Highway Garage**

The Steuben County Highway Garage is located at the southwest corner of South Elizabeth and

West Gale Streets in the city of Angola. The property consists of lots numbered 82 and 95, and the north part of lot number 98, all in the Original Plat of the town, now city, of Angola, Indiana.

This property was acquired in two separate parcels; the first was acquired by Warranty Deed from Orlo L. Roberts on September 14th, 1937, to "Emmet Chard, John O. Matson, and Theron E. Miller, comprising the Board of Commissioners of Steuben County, in their collective capacity as the Board of Directors of said County, and their successors in office, for the use of said Steuben County." The deed, after describing the property, contains this statement: "being the real estate on which is located a two story cement block building located on South Elizabeth Street in said city of Angola. The price paid for this piece of property was \$5,000.00.

The second part of the County Highway Department property was acquired from Harry Kankamp and Gertrude Kankamp for \$2,500.00 by Warranty Deed to "John O. Matson, Theron E. Miller, and John I. Meyers, comprising the Board of Commissioners of Steuben County, and their successors in office." The real estate consists of lot 82 and the north part of lot 95 north of the center line of the north wall of the Cement Block Building located on the lot.

The cement block building is still in use and is used as a garage, storage, and offices of the Superintendent of County Roads.

#### **Central Heating Plant**

At a meeting of the Board of Commissioners on May 7, 1927, the Board decided that a central heating plant was necessary to be built on lots 86 and 97 in the Original Plat of Angola. These lots were acquired as part of the purchase of the Court House Annex. Consequently the Board of Commissioners authorized the employment of a competent architect who was to submit plans and specifications on the proposed heating plant. Later, on June 14, 1927, plans and specifications were approved and the building of a central heating plant was ordered "for the purpose of heating the Court House, County Jail, Jail Garage, a large house on the east side of lots and property belonging to Steuben County and to be known and used for County office rooms and a brick barn on said lands to be used for storage of County trucks

and tools." The total cost was about \$17,000.00 for the building and heating pipes and equipment.

### County Infirmary

The County Infirmary is located near Crooked Lake three miles northwest of Angola on a farm of 315 acres which was purchased by the county in the 1870s. The old building, composed of three different structures joined together, served the purpose along with some care given by the several townships at so much per week.

Across the road to the east a brick building was erected in 1885 at a cost of \$19,000.00 including the furnishings. The first superintendent of the institution was Alonzo Cobb. Samuel A. Anspaugh was the superintendent when the new building was opened for use. The present superintendent is Weir Snyder.



## History of Steuben County Post Offices

*By Reuben L. Ridenour*

The following is a list of all postmasters in Steuben County from the very first in 1837, up to the present time, giving date and place of appointments.

This record was taken from a photostatic copy obtained from Washington, D. C.

### Angola Postmasters

Names	Appointed
Jas. McConnell .....	Jan. 3, 1838
Thomas Gale .....	Aug. 4, 1841
Wm. M. Cary .....	May 30, 1842
Simeon C. Aldrich .....	Dec. 9, 1845
Adams Knott .....	Nov. 15, 1849
Chas. G. Mugg .....	July 22, 1851
Wm. M. Squier .....	Nov. 17, 1851
Rob't. Patterson .....	June 11, 1853
Asa M. Tinker .....	Dec. 26, 1860
Alfred Osborn .....	July 1, 1862
Orville Carver .....	July 23, 1869
Francis Macartney .....	Feb. 28, 1883
Harmann Freygang .....	July 18, 1885
Harmann Freygang .....	July 31, 1885

### Names

### Appointed

Joseph H. Hirst .....	Aug. 26, 1889
Geo. E. Young .....	Mar. 5, 1894
Frank Carver .....	Feb. 18, 1898
Elias Rose .....	Feb. 7, 1902
Fred Snyder .....	Feb. 7, 1906
R. E. Willis .....	Feb. 22, 1910
Fred Emerson .....	Feb. 11, 1914
Frank B. Rowley .....	Sept. 18, 1922
Guy J. Shaughness .....	Mar. 10, 1931
Floyd Faulkerson .....	Aug. 15, 1934
Reuben L. Ridenour .....	June 1, 1953

### Alvarado

Jno. W. Douglass .....	Feb. 2, 1884
Albert Morley .....	Nov. 28, 1887
James Kannel .....	Dec. 21, 1889
Charles D. Kepler .....	Feb. 12, 1898
Alfred H. Bender .....	July 3, 1903

Mail to Pleasant Lake effective Oct. 15, 1904.

### Crooked Creek

Thomas Knott .....	May 5, 1837
John Nichols .....	Aug. 1, 1837
John Knott .....	July 26, 1838
Jas. I. Follett .....	June 11, 1841
John Kent .....	March 14, 1844
Geo. Johnston .....	Sept. 29, 1845
Chester D. Salisbury .....	April 27, 1846
Richard A. Gains .....	July 6, 1846
Geo. A. Milner .....	April 5, 1847
John Kent .....	Sept. 22, 1847
John Nichols .....	May 30, 1849
Truman C. Dewey .....	May 30, 1850
Joseph Hutchinson .....	Sept. 9, 1851
Theron Storrs .....	June 17, 1854
Simeon Gilbert .....	Oct. 30, 1857
Richard C. Dickinson .....	Feb. 21, 1862
Henry L. Gilbert .....	Sept. 19, 1862
Amasa H. Cory .....	June 12, 1863
Henry C. Austin .....	June 27, 1866
Chas. H. Collins .....	Feb. 18, 1870
Jno. E. Smith .....	Oct. 17, 1876
Joseph Wilder .....	Feb. 2, 1881
Stillman L. Collins .....	July 8, 1885
Judson Bradley .....	Sept. 21, 1889
Joseph H. Wilder .....	Jan. 10, 1890
Mary B. Reynolds .....	April 22, 1891
Stillman L. Collins .....	Mar. 12, 1894

Discontinued Oct. 31, 1903, mail sent to Fremont.



**Jackson Prairie**

<b>Names</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
Adolphus Town .....	May 15, 1839
Robert C. Jackson .....	Feb. 14, 1845
Sam B. Jackson .....	Oct. 9, 1846
George Emerson .....	Dec. 1, 1846

Name changed to

**Flint**

Benajah B. Long .....	Jan. 14, 1850
Arby Dean .....	June 11, 1853
Columbus C. Bennett .....	Mar. 31, 1854
Jno. C. Hopkins .....	Dec. 16, 1854
Arby Dean .....	Jan. 12, 1855
Erastus M. Roberts .....	Apr. 3, 1856
Spencer J. Cleveland .....	Apr. 3, 1857
Sam H. Collins .....	Mar. 3, 1859
Eli Frink .....	June 7, 1859
Jeremiah Brown .....	May 3, 1862
Lorenzo C. VanHusen .....	May 5, 1863
John Crandall .....	Oct. 10, 1863
John B. Richner .....	July 8, 1885
John Crandall .....	July 30, 1889
Ward Philo .....	Aug. 10, 1893
Frank H. Miller .....	Aug. 21, 1897
John Huffman .....	Nov. 23, 1897
Ward Philo .....	Feb. 23, 1898
Wm. Huffman .....	June 21, 1900
Herbert H. Higbie .....	July 9, 1902
John D. Benninghoff .....	Apr. 4, 1905
Earl Shaffer .....	Apr. 8, 1907

Discontinued July 31, 1907, Mail sent to Angola.

**Fish Creek**

Ellis Fales .....	Apr. 15, 1846
Geo. W. Jenks .....	June 18, 1857
Geo. W. Durbin .....	June 2, 1853
Jacob O. Rose .....	June 17, 1854
Winn Powers .....	Feb. 10, 1859
Jacob O. Rose .....	Dec. 13, 1860
George Brooks .....	Apr. 28, 1864
Jacob O. Rose .....	Aug. 20, 1864
Wm. R. Mitchell .....	Jan. 10, 1865

Discontinued June 25, 1875.

**Brockville**

Aaron B. Goodwin .....	Apr. 24, 1837
Matthew Coffin .....	Feb. 26, 1838

Name changed to

**Fremont**

<b>Names</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
Daniel Caswell .....	Nov. 11, 1845
Enos Beall .....	Jan. 7, 1850
Jno. Russell .....	June 3, 1857
Jno. W. Follett .....	Dec. 28, 1857
Jeremiah G. W. Colburn .....	Jan. 19, 1858
Melvin Tillotson .....	June 12, 1859
Jno. W. Follett .....	May 5, 1860
Chas. Havens .....	July 12, 1861
Warren W. Wilkinson .....	July 5, 1881
Delivan J. Tillotson .....	July 30, 1889
Horatio M. Howell .....	July 27, 1893
Clyde U. Michael .....	June 20, 1897
Joshua P. Albright .....	June 21, 1901
Duane Scott .....	Jan. 20, 1908
Geo. H. Griffith .....	May 10, 1912
Elmer Ritter .....	May 15, 1916
George Griffith .....	Feb. 23, 1925
Edward Myers .....	May 16, 1933
Leslie C. Weigle .....	June 1, 1944
Leslie Doster .....	Sept. 15, 1950

**Enterprise**

Samuel Tuttle .....	May 15, 1839
Jas. W. Jefferds .....	June 20, 1839
Frederick C. Wilson .....	Apr. 14, 1842

Name changed to

**Hamilton**

Daniel Gale .....	Feb. 26, 1849
Oscar A. Gambia .....	May 30, 1849
Jno. W. Emerson .....	Feb. 20, 1852
Peter W. Ladue .....	May 5, 1853
Lewis Griffith .....	Jan. 14, 1854
Reuben Lent .....	June 9, 1854
Benajah B. Long .....	June 23, 1855
William Rima .....	Dec. 2, 1856
Elisha Thompson .....	Jan. 13, 1859
William Rima .....	Mar. 26, 1859
Levi B. Brown .....	Aug. 23, 1861
William Rima .....	May 5, 1866
Albert Morley .....	Sept. 15, 1873
Josiah I. Zerkle .....	May 20, 1874
Herbert N. Andrews .....	Feb. 19, 1878
Simpson Duck .....	Sept. 9, 1878
Truman A. Beecher .....	July 16, 1880
Jno. R. Ross .....	May 16, 1881
Frank Cameron .....	Nov. 11, 1881
Andrew Stout .....	Jan. 1, 1882
Jno. W. Thomas .....	May 16, 1883

Names	Appointed
Andrew J. Stout .....	Aug. 10, 1885
John E. Garwood .....	July 30, 1889
Chas. S. Myers .....	Aug. 15, 1891
Edward E. Swaidner .....	July 6, 1892
Edward E. Swaidner .....	Sept. 24, 1897
Cyrus B. Dirrim .....	Sept. 24, 1901
Geo. W. Stout .....	June 23, 1914
Cyrus Dirrim .....	Oct. 17, 1921
Benjamin Franklin Smith .....	May 5, 1930
Thomas R. Teegardin .....	July 1, 1934

**North Benton**

Ira Allerton .....	Dec. 10, 1868
Discontinued Nov. 22, 1869.	

**Hudson**

David Ferrier .....	Jan. 15, 1875
Hezekiah K. Leas .....	Feb. 24, 1879
Marvin B. Butler .....	Mar. 17, 1880
Frank M. Zimmerman .....	April 14, 1880
Jno. H. Wagner .....	Oct. 11, 1883
Joseph Ketchum .....	July 8, 1885
John H. Wagner .....	July 3, 1889
Horace G. Garmire .....	July 3, 1893
John H. Wagner .....	June 16, 1897
Samuel Ferguson .....	July 5, 1901
Samuel Harpham .....	April 20, 1904
Lena B. (Ritter) Weldy .....	June 23, 1914
Jennings Luttmann .....	Jan. 1, 1946

**Lake Gage**

Oliver Miller .....	Jan. 31, 1884
Oliver Miller .....	Aug. 4, 1889
Henry E. Elliot .....	July 24, 1901

Taken to Angola April 1902.

**Metz**

Joseph Bennett .....	May 10, 1849
Justus Barron .....	Nov. 1, 1853
Nathaniel Pettit .....	Aug. 4, 1857
Jas. Shepard .....	May 31, 1866
Jno. W. Thomas .....	Mar. 19, 1869
W. H. Brandeberry .....	Feb. 8, 1872
Geo. D. Brown .....	Jan. 14, 1874
Nathaniel Pettit .....	Aug. 10, 1874
Samuel D. Porter .....	Apr. 18, 1882
Elizabeth Wood .....	July 8, 1885
Alonzo Powers .....	Oct. 23, 1886
Sylvester J. Stowe .....	June 26, 1889

Names	Appointed
Louis Cary .....	June 26, 1889
John Williams .....	May 17, 1893
Burdette Goodale .....	May 6, 1896
Ford Goodale .....	June 12, 1905
John J. Ogle .....	Mar. 6, 1917
John L. Robinett .....	May 15, 1920
Lorin B. Young .....	Feb. 3, 1944
Weir Williams .....	Jan. 16, 1948

**Nevada Mills**

Cyrus N. Mason .....	July 23, 1867
George Rumsey .....	Sept. 25, 1867
Israel Lucas .....	June 21, 1870
Samuel Herald .....	Feb. 24, 1871
Discontinued Mar. 15, 1871.	

Frederick Neutz .....	May 15, 1873
Mrs. Maria Neutz .....	Jan. 27, 1874
Thomas C. Terry .....	Nov. 20, 1889
Thompson C. Terry .....	Dec. 9, 1889
Ella Cleveland .....	Dec. 5, 1893
James C. Terry .....	Nov. 17, 1897

Papers to Fremont Aug. 15, 1905.

**Orland**

Alexander Chapin .....	Mar. 9, 1837
Nathaniel A. Shumway .....	June 13, 1840
Sidney P. Gambia .....	Dec. 6, 1843
Enoch W. Marsh .....	Sept. 26, 1846
Sullivan U. Clark .....	Nov. 2, 1847
Wm. E. Blake .....	May 31, 1848
Chas. L. Luce .....	May 30, 1849
Nathan Roberts .....	May 5, 1853
Christian Schneider .....	Dec. 30, 1856
Christian Schneider .....	Oct. 5, 1865
Geo. W. Jackman .....	Sept. 5, 1893
Wm. J. Case .....	Sept. 15, 1897
Don Gardner Stuck .....	Sept. 7, 1901
Frederick J. Werner .....	June 23, 1914
Lillian R. Stuck .....	Jan. 1, 1921
Orson Dickinson .....	Jan. 10, 1935
Virginia Norton .....	May 30, 1943
Floyd Linendoll .....	Feb. 22, 1944
Florence Linendoll .....	May 28, 1950
Marian Keyes .....	Mar. 28, 1952

**Oufa**

Orris A. Matthews .....	May 6, 1880
Geo. H. Carpenter .....	May 2, 1881
John Griffith .....	Mar. 25, 1892
Wm. Ingalls .....	Jan. 1, 1895



Names	Appointed
Mail to Alvarado Dec. 16, 1895.	
Elisha J. Teegardin .....	Jan. 18, 1896
Discontinued to Alvarado Aug. 5, 1896.	
Almon B. Shaffer .....	Nov. 1, 1897
Mail to Hamilton April 5, 1900.	

**Steubenville**

Seth W. Murray .....	May 15, 1839
Abner Windsor .....	Feb. 18, 1842
Angus McKinlay .....	June 3, 1846
Justin Darling .....	May 11, 1849
Mail to Ashley.	
Sumner Kemp .....	Sept. 19, 1893
Fred Kemp .....	Oct. 30, 1894
Eugene Kelly .....	Oct. 3, 1900
Dessa Koons .....	Nov. 11, 1920
Pearl Harman .....	Apr. 26, 1921
Eugene Kelly .....	Aug. 28, 1922
S. U. Eugene Baird .....	Oct. 8, 1924
Mail sent to Ashley.	

**Pleasant Lake**

Simeon C. Aldrich .....	June 2, 1851
Timothy Adams .....	Dec. 22, 1851
Simeon C. Aldrich .....	July 27, 1853
Ira Gardner .....	Dec. 30, 1856
Augustus V. Ball .....	Dec. 23, 1857
Chas. L. Perfect .....	Oct. 11, 1858
Augustus V. Ball .....	Apr. 3, 1860
Mrs. Melissa Aldrich .....	Aug. 2, 1861
Americus Carpenter .....	Apr. 7, 1864
David Gilbert .....	Feb. 1, 1866
J. W. Long .....	Apr. 12, 1867
Volney E. Simmons .....	Apr. 26, 1867
Sylvanus B. George .....	Oct. 13, 1879
Geo. E. Young .....	July 8, 1885
Selim V. Cogswell .....	Dec. 6, 1887
Cyrus Robertson .....	July 30, 1889
S. Wellington McHenry .....	July 31, 1893
Frank G. Gilbert .....	June 19, 1897
Isaiah B. Smith .....	June 21, 1901
James L. Matson .....	Jan. 4, 1905
Zema Cogswell .....	June 23, 1914
Claude L. Carpenter .....	Oct. 16, 1914
Martha McGrew .....	Nov. 17, 1921
Name changed to	
Martha Wise .....	June 10, 1926
Sol A. Tuttle .....	Mar. 10, 1931
Albert E. Sewell .....	Jan. 11, 1936
Clyde Brooks .....	Mar. 1, 1945

Names	Appointed
David Wisel .....	April 26, 1852
Walter Braden .....	Nov. 6, 1852
Orson Woodford .....	Oct. 28, 1854
Silas Conger .....	Dec. 30, 1856
Orson Woodford .....	June 20, 1861
John Cary .....	Feb. 22, 1870
W. E. Kimsey .....	Dec. 26, 1879
Lewis Dole .....	Sept. 1, 1885
Marvin Butler .....	July 30, 1889
Lewis Dole .....	Oct. 30, 1894
John Dewitt .....	Dec. 2, 1897
Marvin Butler .....	Mar. 6, 1900
Mail to Helmer Oct. 31, 1903.	

**Clear Lake**

Abraham Bloomer .....	May 23, 1870
Jay Bisbee .....	April 12, 1890
Julius F. Tompkins .....	Dec. 16, 1891
Sylvester Waltz .....	Dec. 29, 1893
Bradford V. Springer .....	Oct. 3, 1896
Bert Nichols .....	Aug. 29, 1902
Wm. H. Clark .....	Nov. 1, 1902

Postoffice taken to Ray Oct. 31, 1906.

**Ray**

Lester W. Roscrant .....	July 12, 1872
Geo. D. Avery .....	July 19, 1875
Alexander Thompson .....	Oct. 3, 1875
Albert Paul .....	Dec. 23, 1878
Benj. M. McLouth .....	Feb. 23, 1882
Benj. F. Isenhouer .....	June 18, 1883
John Paul .....	July 30, 1889
Wilson Teeters .....	April 14, 1893
David M. Leard .....	Apr. 24, 1897
O. Irving Laird .....	June 21, 1901
Almon F. Beloto .....	Feb. 1, 1906
Frank E. Taffner .....	Oct. 26, 1907
Blanche D. Mott .....	July 1, 1911
John H. Zimmerman .....	Oct. 17, 1912
Minnie O. Betts .....	Aug. 5, 1915
Edna R. Wolfe .....	Feb. 28, 1919
Gay R. Paul .....	April 17, 1920
Fern Duguid .....	Sept. 1, 1923
Pliny B. Stewart .....	Sept. 19, 1924
Mrs. Fern Duguid .....	Feb. 27, 1926
Mrs. Millie E. Smith .....	July 24, 1933
Mark D. Kaufman .....	Mar. 4, 1940

**Turkey Creek**

<b>Names</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
Almon Chaffee .....	May 18, 1852
Peter Johnson .....	Oct. 16, 1852
Almon Tinklepaugh .....	Jan. 5, 1864
James Noddings .....	Apr. 10, 1871
Andrew S. Barker .....	Aug. 26, 1878
Frank T. Dole .....	Jan. 24, 1881
Walter Mains .....	Apr. 3, 1883
Geo. W. Ellithorp .....	Sept. 1, 1885
William Pray .....	Nov. 14, 1888
Rufus H. Herrick .....	Dec. 28, 1896
Hiram L. Billman .....	Apr. 22, 1897

Mail to Helmer May 31, 1900.

**Helmer**

Edward E. Pray .....	Dec. 5, 1904
Harvey E. Gardner .....	June 23, 1914
Delbert Cornell .....	Mar. 3, 1924
George Kent .....	Mar. 10, 1928
Marion Keel .....	Dec. 13, 1934
Marjorie Leas .....	Jan. 8, 1937
Ray Hoyer .....	Feb. 10, 1941

**York Center**

Henry Eldridge .....	Nov. 6, 1855
Elias M. Gleason .....	Oct. 24, 1857
Geo. Dunnavan .....	Aug. 29, 1861
David G. Smith .....	Aug. 23, 1867
Richard D. Stewart .....	May 23, 1876
Harvey D. Ellis .....	July 21, 1879
Geo. F. Osfall .....	Aug. 3, 1887
Arteman A. Stallman .....	Dec. 7, 1887
Geo. F. Osfall .....	June 9, 1889
Amro Avery .....	Oct. 21, 1893

Postoffice name changed to York Dec. 14, 1894.

Geo. Osfall .....	Dec. 14, 1894
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**Crooked Lake**

John Merrill .....	May 5, 1839
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Discontinued Sept. 19, 1842.

**Lake James**

Clayton Mallory .....	Sept. 19, 1851
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Discontinued Oct. 6, 1851.

**North East**

Stephen A. Powers .....	Jan. 8, 1851
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Discontinued Jan. 15, 1865.

**Sandy Ridge**

<b>Names</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
Jas. A. Segur .....	Feb. 12, 1857
Dudley Holdridge .....	Apr. 10, 1858
Harlow B. Holdridge .....	Mar. 16, 1860
Harriet A. Holdridge .....	Nov. 3, 1863

The above dates of postoffices in Steuben County covers 117 years of postal development and it has gone through a lot of changes. Starting with the first mail route established in the County, which was from Lima, LaGrange County, Indiana, to Toledo, Ohio, via Orland, Jamestown, Brockville, now Fremont.

The second was from Lima, LaGrange County, Indiana, to Defiance, Ohio, via Jackson Prairie, Flint, Steubenville, and Enterprise, now Hamilton.

The third was from Angola to Brockville or Fremont.

The fourth from Coldwater, Michigan, to Fort Wayne via Hall's Corners, Jamestown, Fremont, Angola, Pleasant Lake, Hamilton, and Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana, to Fort Wayne. From LaGrange to Toledo the mail was carried on horse back on the Vistula Road.

The second route from Lima to Fort Defiance was carried on horse back, and also the one from Angola to Fremont, until the route from Coldwater, Michigan, to Fort Wayne, Indiana, was established, when it was carried by stage, being the first stage route in the county.

At the beginning of this postal service, it cost eight cents to send a letter thirty miles. The rate was based on a single sheet of paper; it could be large or small, and weight had nothing to do with the cost of mailing. The postage was collected from the person receiving the mail and it is said that practical jokers or persons holding a grudge, sent expensive letters, solely to annoy the person on the receiving end.

The early carriers were faced with Indian Ambushes, treacherous swamps, and icy streams. It sometimes was necessary to have four horses to pull the light mail through deep snow drifts and deep mud. Even though mail robbery was punishable by death, mail robbers were more of a menace than the Indians.

The roads have been so wonderfully improved through the years that nearly all the rural areas in the county have mail service daily.



At the present time, 12 rural routes travel about 700 miles daily, delivering mail to approximately 8000 people.

The residents of Angola get mail service once a day and the business section twice daily, by four city carriers.

The County now has 6 star routes: Angola to Orland, Hudson to Waterloo, Hamilton to Waterloo, three daily via Fremont, Angola, Pleasant Lake, to Waterloo.

Angola became a first class postoffice in 1946 and the postal receipts have increased about \$2,-000.00 yearly, those of last year being \$80,928.10.

### **The Staff**

(Angola Postoffice)

Listed below is the staff of the Angola Postoffice, comprising a number of people who have been there over a period of years, some of whom are retired, some deceased, and some still here. Also listed is the retired list as of now, together with the present staff.

Floyd B. Faulkerson, Postmaster  
Kenneth Miller, Assistant Postmaster  
Everett Dixon, Clerk  
Earl Dole, Clerk  
Bert Huff, Clerk  
Guy Shaughness, Clerk  
Frank Tiffany, Jr., Substitute  
Ralph Ewers, Carrier  
Irvin Metzger, Carrier  
Kenneth Rathbun, Carrier  
Lee Brooks, Rural Carrier  
John Goudy, Rural Carrier  
Glen McCool, Rural Carrier  
Worthy J. Shuman, Rural Carrier  
Robert Sutton, Rural Carrier  
Perry Berlien, Substitute  
Roy Clark, Substitute  
Pyrl Dole, Substitute  
John Somerlott, Substitute  
Charles Spangle, Substitute  
Gaylor Willibey, Mail Messenger  
Leslie Cole, Star Route Carrier  
F. W. Goodwin, Star Route Carrier  
Russell Millikan, Clerk Lake James Station  
John Howenstein, Clerk Crooked Lake Station  
Robert Hincklin, Carrier Lake James Station  
Jonas Crisman, Carrier Crooked Lake Station  
Bruce Boyer, Fireman-Laborer  
Ralph Williamson, Charman

### **Retired List**

Winifred Hathaway	Worthy Shuman
Earl Dole	Glen McCool
John Goudy	Floyd Faulkerson

### **Present Staff**

R. L. Ridenour, Postmaster  
Fred Crowl, Assistant Postmaster  
Bert Huff, Clerk  
Donald Osborn, Clerk  
Michael P. Pristas, Clerk  
Gerald Bassett, Substitute Clerk  
Estle Shoup, Substitute Carrier  
Harry Cook, Carrier  
Jack Parrish, Carrier  
William Fritz, Carrier  
Robert Brown, Carrier  
Bruce Boyer, Fireman-Laborer  
William Zuber, Substitute Carrier  
Ralph Williamson, Charman

### **Rural Routes**

Robert Somerlott, Route #1  
Harold Koch, Substitute R.R. Carrier  
Royal Gale Hanna, Route #2  
Sidney Morrison, Substitute R.R. Carrier  
Everett Dixon, Route #3  
Norman Kistler, Substitute R. R. Carrier  
Imo Smith, Route #4  
Robert Cleckner, Substitute R. R. Carrier #7  
Freeman Henline, Star Route to Orland and Lake James  
Charles Bledsoe, Clerk in charge at Lake James.  
Fred Ziegler, Carrier on Lake James.

Below is a short article by Ken Weaver, News-Sentinel State Editor, who writes as follows: We quote

"Fred Ziegler, postman at Lake James, delivers the U.S. mail just a little differently from most mailmen—instead of hoofing it, he uses a motor boat. The Lake James Postoffice, serviced by Star Route from Angola, claims to be the last fresh-water delivery route on an inland lake in the United States, with a cottage-to-cottage delivery by speed boat. Ziegler, principal of the Auburn Junior High School and the Harrison Grade School, during the regular school year, delivers the mail to some 200 mail boxes perched at the end of piers along the 32 miles of Lake James shoreline (the largest lake in Steuben Coun-

ty) from June 1 to September 15th. Of the 40 years the water delivery route has been in existence, Ziegler has been the postman for 12 years. This is the last of eight or ten such routes in the country."

Fremont is now a second class postoffice: Lester Doster, Postmaster; Frank Hall, Clerk; Paul Cline, Substitute Clerk. Rural Carriers: Leslie Weigle and Ford Vaughn.

Hamilton is a third class postoffice: Thomas Ray Teegardin, Postmaster; Goldie Haviland, Clerk; and Kenneth Gnagy and Charles Hanes, Rural Carriers.

Pleasant Lake is a third class office: Clyde Brooks, Postmaster; Zema Tuttle, Clerk; and James Ferris, Route Carrier.

Orland is a third class postoffice: Mrs. Marion Keyes, Postmaster; Mrs. Florence Linendoll, clerk; and Carl Brown, Rural Route Carrier.

Hudson is a third class post office: Jennings Luttman, Postmaster; Mrs. Jennings Luttman, Clerk; and Russell Collins, Rural Route Carrier.

Ray is a third class postoffice: Mark D. Kaufman, Postmaster; Mrs. Pauline McConnell, Substitute Clerk. Mr. W. D. Rummell was Rural Carrier for many years, retiring in 1937, at which time the present carrier Earl Schaeffer, took over the route.

Metz is a fourth class postoffice: Weir Williams, Postmaster.

Helmer is a fourth class post office: Ray C. Hoyer, Postmaster.

bank at Jamestown in 1863 with John Dutton as cashier.

The Angola Bank was established March, 1877, by E. B. Glasgow, Jesse M. Gale, William Wickwire, George W. Wickwire, and Alfred Osborn. Jesse M. Gale withdrew from the firm about the year 1885, and Alfred Osborn died about 1886, and George W. Wickwire died October 5, 1883. George W. Wickwire was succeeded by his son George R. Wickwire and for many years the business of this bank was conducted by the said George R. (Riley) Wickwire and William Wickwire (commonly called Uncle Billie Wickwire). William Wickwire died December 22, 1901, and George R. Wickwire continued at the head of the bank until it was taken over by the Angola Bank Trust Company.

The Steuben County Bank was organized at Angola July 1, 1889, by William G. Croxton and Orville Carver, with a capital of \$32,000. Its first officers were: William G. Croxton, President; Orville Carver, Vice-President; Harry K. Scott, Cashier. The surplus carried by this bank in the fall of 1919 was \$10,000. Its deposits were \$194,173. They had part of the Croxton Opera House Building, which the bank owned, as their banking rooms.

The first national bank in Steuben County was the First National Bank of Angola. The charter of the Angola bank is dated October 24, 1903, and they commenced doing banking business November 16, 1903. This banking house was organized by J. F. Cameron, Cyrus Cline, Emmet S. Croxton, Stephen H. Fuller, Clarence Freeman, Lawrence Gates, A. E. Leas, John Harpham, George E. Malory, J. B. Parsell, L. E. Smith, Theodore F. Wood, Joseph A. Woodhull, Charles W. Wickwire, and Frank B. Humphreys. This bank had as its original officers: Cyrus Cline, President; Emmet S. Croxton, Vice-President; Clarence Freeman, Cashier; and J. B. Parsell, Assistant Cashier. The capital at first was \$50,000.

The Angola Bank Trust Company was organized at Angola in 1906, and had for its first officers: G. R. Wickwire, President; J. A. Woodhull, Vice-President; E. L. Dodge, Secretary. This bank was started with a capital of \$60,000.

The Citizens State Bank of Orland was organized in 1906 by the citizens of Orland and vicinity, with a capital of \$25,000. Its first officers were: John Shuman, President; A. E. Yoder, Cashier.

The First State Bank of Fremont was established in January, 1912, and had as its first officers: Dr.



## Steuben County Financial Institutions

*By Carlton Chase*

The first bank established within Steuben County and its county seat was the "Steuben County Bank," established in 1854, and continued in operation only a year or two. Angola was then without a bank until 1870, when C. F. Kinney and others organized the Banking House of Kinney & Co. In 1873, Robert Pew started a bank which was—in 1876—reconstructed as the "Angola Bank" as known in the 80s. It is said there was a private



R. L. Wade, President; Charles E. Hall, Vice-President; J. R. Thompson, Cashier; Clark J. Hall, Assistant Cashier. Directors: E. C. Duguid, Samuel Waters, and G. L. McClure. This bank had an original capital of \$25,000.

The First State Bank at Pleasant Lake Village was organized in 1914 by E. S. Croxton, Frank R. Chadwick, Frank G. Gilbert, J. B. Parsell, and Cyrus Cline, with a capital of \$25,000.

The Farmers State Bank at Hudson was organized April 28, 1917. It had as its first officers: Frank Strock, President; H. C. Doty, Vice-president; F. H. Butler, Cashier.

The First National Bank of Fremont was organized in 1915 by Theodore McNaughton, as President; Fred J. Baker, Vice-President; J. R. Thompson, Cashier. Others who aided in the founding of this bank were: D. J. Tillotson, Ruth L. McNaughton, E. B. McNaughton, L. DeCaswell, Fred J. Baker, H. B. Weicht, J. W. McClue, George W. Mott, J. R. Thompson, J. E. Taylor, and C. A. Yotter. Its original capital was \$25,000. This bank succeeded the People's State Bank, which was organized in January, 1915, the First National succeeding it in March of the same year. The First National Bank of Fremont was one of three banks (the other two being the First National Bank at Angola and the Farmers State of Hudson) in Steuben County, to win the honor certificate of extraordinary financial service in taking its full quota of U.S. Certificates of Indebtedness in anticipation of the Fourth Liberty Loan, and one of the two banks (the other being the Hamilton Bank) to be awarded the honor certificate for distinguished financial service for taking its full quota of U. S. Certificates of Indebtedness, in anticipation of the Victory Loan.

The Commercial Bank of Ashley was organized with a capital of \$10,000, in 1910. Its officers were: E. F. Mortorff, President; Isaiah Miller, Vice-president; A. W. Gonser, Cashier; G. W. Clark, Assistant Cashier.

The Ray Bank, at the Village of Ray, Steuben County, was organized in 1907 by Theodore McNaughton and E. B. McNaughton with a \$10,000 capital.

The Bank of Hamilton was organized June 6, 1905, with a capital of \$10,000. Its first officers were: O. H. Taylor, President and Cashier, John L. Taylor, Assistant Cashier. The Hamilton Bank, a private bank, has been in continuous operation by the Taylor family for over half a century.

The Angola State Bank opened for business on June 1, 1927, with a capital of \$41,000. It had as its first officers: Frank B. Rowley, President; A. M. Baker, Vice-president; and W. W. Elston, Cashier.

The First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Angola was organized in November, 1933, receiving the first Federal Savings and Loan charter granted in Indiana. Its first officers were: James A. Moody, President; Guy J. Shaughness, Vice-President; and Harvey W. Morley, Secretary-Treasurer.

The Steuben County Building and Loan Association was organized in June, 1926, and continued in operation until 1933. It had as its first officers Frank G. Robertson as President, Guy J. Shaughness as Vice-President, and Harvey W. Morley as Secretary-Treasurer.

The present Banking System is the strongest in the history of the county, made up of the following: First National Bank of Fremont, the Hamilton Bank, Angola State Bank, First National Bank of Angola, and the First Federal Savings and Loan Association. Deposits of Banks in the County are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, up to \$10,000.00.

The First National Bank of Fremont Statement as of Dec. 31, 1954.

Capital Stock	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus	25,000.00
Undivided Profits	217,866.00
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Total Capital Acct.	\$ 267,866.00
Deposits	4,707,628.00
Total Assets	\$4,975,494.00

The Hamilton Bank Statement as of December 31, 1954.

Capital Stock	\$ 10,000.00
Surplus	20,000.00
Undivided Profits	16,000.00
<hr/>	
Total Capital Acct.	\$ 46,000.00
Deposits	844,910.00
Total Assets	\$890,910.00

Angola State Bank Statement as of December 31, 1954.

Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus	150,000.00
Undivided Profits	104,222.00
Reserves	8,515.00
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Total Capital Acct.	\$ 312,737.00

Deposits 4,663,882.00  
 Total Assets \$4,976,619.00  
 First National Bank of Angola as of December  
 31, 1954.

Capital Stock \$ 50,000.00  
 Surplus 170,000.00  
 Undivided Profits 40,004.00  
 Reserves 9,000.00

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Total Capital Acct. \$ 269,004.00  
 Deposits 3,834,735.00  
 Total Assets \$4,103,739.00

First Federal Savings and Loan Association as  
 of December 31, 1954.

First Mortgage Loans \$1,435,712.35  
 Prop. sold on contract 5,314.75  
 Real Estate Owned 3,961.80  
 Investments and  
     Securities 135,000.00  
 Cash 286,663.41  
 Building and  
     Equipment 10,547.96  
 Total Assets \$1,877,200.27  
 Savings Accounts \$1,703,330.24  
 Loans in Process 597.37  
 Other Liabilities 345.77  
 Specific Reserves 6,229.36  
 Reserves and Surplus 166,697.53  
 Total Liabilities \$1,877,200.27



# Early History of Steuben County



## Steuben County Geology

By Prof. Minard F. Rose

"For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past—" Psalm 90:4

One might say that among the later events in the geological history significant to this region were the rising of the Devonian rock layer from the floor of some pre-historic ocean floor, and the great Laurentian Revolution. This last event, a buckling of the earth's crust into a mountain range in eastern Canada, was duplicated in the formation of our own Appalachian Chain. Violent volcanic action accompanied the Laurentian formation, so that thousands of square miles of lava spread over the vast Canadian floor, or shelf, across northern Canada.

The next series of events of significance here was the formation of the great Canadian glaciers, or ice caps, that must, at times, have approached two miles in thickness. They began to move southward skidding southwestwards against the Laurentian wall, southward across Michigan, and again southwestward across what is now Lake Michigan. These are called, respectively, the Erie, Saginaw, and Michigan "drifts." (Drift often refers to the earth deposits.) Thus the crushed rock, sand and forest debris of Canada became the topsoil of the American middle west.

Of the two general kinds of soil—that formed by freezing and thawing and by the accumulation of organic matter where it is now, and the kind pushed in by glaciers—the soil of Steuben County, and of vast areas of the northern middle west is of the latter kind. Steuben County, and most of this middle western area, are covered by glacial deposits. So, in a sense, we live on a foreign soil—most of it was pushed in from eastern Canada.

The soil of Steuben County is varied in the

extreme. In addition to muck (organic drift matter) there are to be found sand, gravel, and clay in abundance. Vast areas were at one time strewn with rocks of varying size, shape, and composition. In the congealing of the earth's crust into rock, they were not made here—they were carried in. The layers of these rocks (like sandwiches) show a variety in composition. The deep scratches on their surfaces indicate the "rough" time they had in getting here. Beneath all this is a stiff sandy clay, packed hard by heavy pressure, called hardpan.

A geologist has said that "the track of a glacier is as plain as the track of a man." It takes longer to observe the former, and to interpret its full meaning.

Steuben County is covered at depths ranging from 30 to 300 feet above the Devonian bedrock (of a kind observed and studied in England). The surface of the county is broken up into "drifts," "moraines" and river valleys, with as large a collection of "kettle hole" lakes left by the moraines as is to be found in America in a similar area. The State Conservation Department lists well over 100 of them—even in dry weather. Most of these morainic lakes are slowly filling with soil erosion and organic matter. In the 20,000 years since the last glacier, many earlier lakes have filled. Mute, but eloquent, evidence of these may be found all over this area.

Steuben County can be divided into, roughly, five divisions: the second and third Erie (glacier) moraines, the valley of the upper Pigeon River, the fourth Erie moraine, and the region of the Saginaw drift.

The second Erie Moraine touches the southeast corner of the county and Richland Township. Fish Creek valley forms a depression between the second and third Erie moraines. The third division forms a belt about four miles in width, extending from Clear Lake, in the northeast corner, to Fish Lake (Hamilton Lake) in the south. This grand scenic area was first viewed and described by Col. Stansberry of the United States Army Engineer Corps in 1827.

We might digress a bit at this point to mention

a scheme proposed by a certain Fort Wayne Water Power Co. for taking water from Pleasant, Fish, and Ball's Lakes, by cutting a channel through a ridge (moraine) into the St. Joseph River, and thus providing Fort Wayne with an abundant supply of water. No better supply could have been found at that time (circa 1892).

The New York Central Railroad bed lies along the third division, mentioned above. Angola itself lies on a height in this third division. One can easily observe in following the state highway, along this height, that it is a succession of rounded hills and lake-filled depressions.

The fourth Erie moraine attains the highest elevation in Steuben County, where it occupies the greater part of Jamestown, Pleasant, Steuben, Salem, and parts of Jackson and Millgrove Townships. A few miles north of Angola, in Pleasant Township, section 1, is one of the highest points in the State of Indiana.

The last division, the region of the Saginaw drift, includes Millgrove and the north part of Jackson Townships. This area is much different from the rest of Steuben County in that it is level or gently rolling. This is the well-known "Jackson Prairie" region.

Of the various kinds of moraines, the one of most interest here is the "terminal" moraine, or one formed by the toe, or end, of an ice block, as it pushed up a ridge of earth, melted, and filled the depressions underneath it. Most of the lakes of the American middle west were formed in this way. The nearly-parallel lake chains of Hog Back, Long, Pleasant, and Fish Lakes, and of the Lake Gage, Crooked Lake system, and of the George, Snow, and James Lake system, show the depressions between these various morainic remains.

We are in this history. The world has not seen the end of it. There have probably been ten great ice caps in world history, and there is no reason to believe there will not be more. The glacial lakes will fill. Topsoil will wash into the oceans. Mountains will crumble and fall, as they have been doing. The earth's crust will shrink and wrinkle, like a dried apple, so that new mountains will form. Volcanic action, happening repeatedly in many parts of the world, will continue, and new volcanoes will form, as at Paracutin, in Mexico. The orbit of the earth lengthens and shortens, and the earth's axis rocks back and forth. There is good reason to believe that the earth has not

always turned on one axis alone, but on several, and at different speeds.

So, what has happened before will probably happen again. The earth, like its solar system, and other solar systems, shows rhythms, not yet completely timed, or fully understood.

But we have little to worry about here. These rhythms are slow, and the ice ages are millions of years apart. The present ice caps are moving back, rather than forward.



## Indian Lore of Steuben County

*By Cameron W. Parks*

Thousands of years ago, a glacier pushed down into Steuben County from the Canadian uplands, vast quantities of granite and other very dense stone which answered admirably for axes, tomahawks, pestles, hammers, and other implements that must be at once hard and tough. That same ice sheet forced into this county the banded Huronian Slate of suitable texture and appearance for the various ceremonial articles.

It is from these items of Indian aboriginal manufacture found in Steuben County that the past is unfolded as though it were read from some Book of Knowledge. The story I hereby relate is based on an interpretation of such collected facts, remaining earthworks and village sites, and recent historical material.

The physical layout of Steuben County must also be properly understood to interpret the Indian past. This county has a water-shed draining in opposite directions: the southeast part of the county by way of Fish Creek to the St. Joseph river at Ft. Wayne, and the Maumee to Lake Erie; the northwest part of the County by way of Pigeon Creek and Fawn River to the St. Joseph's river at South Bend, and thence to Lake Michigan. This has permitted Steuben County to be more of a fringe area or outer limit of various cultures. It perhaps was the hunting and trapping grounds of tribes to either side of the water-shed.

A study of arrowheads and stone axes shows that the paleolithic man or first American savage



was in the country soon after it was humanly livable. Then up to a couple of thousand years ago, a culture of people called the "Mound Builders" were hereabouts. They had traits, and left stone relics, which distinguished them by a well marked line of division from the historic Indians. They erected elaborate lines of defense, of which none have been found in this county.

The mound as used by the "Mound Builders" is classified into definite groups, as burial, altar, temple, sepulcher, observation, lookout, and anomalous. The only two in Steuben County that may be properly classified, would be the lookout mound near Hogback Lake and the Sepulcher Mound or Circle Mound on Oscar Taylor's farm in Richland Township, along Fish Creek, east of Hamilton Lake. What was once a six foot embankment has been reduced by farming operations until it is scarcely perceptible as an Indian circle.

The Mound Builders, be they Fort Ancient Culture, Hopewell Culture, or Upper Mississippi and Woodland as in our county, were not a civilized race, viz.:— (1) They had no alphabet. (2) They knew nothing of the economic use of iron or any other metal—all such metal was treated as stone—to be pecked, chipped, rubbed, or beaten into the desired form. (3) They had no domestic animal or beast of burden, except the dog. (4) They did not use cement or mortar. (5) They never walled up a spring into a well. (6) They had no hand mills for grinding corn. (7) They did not use a potter's wheel in the serviceable manufacturing of pottery of various designs.

In the recognized five steps toward civilization, they had attained the second. That is, the Mound Builders had advanced from the status of savagery to the lowest status of barbarism.

The Mound Builders had a national religion in which the elements—the sun, the moon, and fire—as gods, were the objects of supreme adoration. In celebration of certain mysteries of their faith, human sacrifices were offered up. No temple mound has ever been found in this county, but many fine stone ceremonials, such as birdstones, hammerstones, boatstones, bar amulets, slate axes, and heavy spears, are evident in collections. In addition to these symbols of a religious cast, most of the other fine relic pieces are merely ornamental. The stone tools and arrowheads are almost without exception intended for peaceful purposes, indicating a people whose habits were not war-like.

They cultivated the soil in a methodical manner as is evident from vestiges of ancient garden beds, but no garden beds are evident in Steuben County. Our Mound Builders may have been hunting and war parties that wandered from some other place, as the history and tradition of nearly all tribes show them continually migrating.

In our "Steuben County Indian Relics," which I'm drawing upon for my facts, are found copper items from the Lake Superior region, mica from the Alleghanies, Shells from the Gulf of Mexico, and Obsidian from the Rocky Mountains, (open to question), migrating versus trading. It is probable that what they used here was obtained by exchange. Indians travelled extensively to exchange wares. Articles of barter were no doubt passed from person to person, from tribe to tribe, and over large areas, and over a long period of time.

Among the stone implements that were found locally, many have been removed from the county to collections elsewhere. In my study, I examined over 10,000 pieces in collections of Dave Wright, (deceased), Harley Griffith, (deceased), Lynn Munger, Harley and George Cosper, Bud Smiley, (deceased), George Dawson, Orville Stevens, Henry Link, Frank Flowers, (deceased), Clarence Dirrim, Harve Leichtner, (deceased), and others in addition to my own.

In any community, a few persons or tribes were more skillful or had greater aptitude for such work than others, so that in the manufacture of pipes, ceremonial ornaments, and large symmetrical flint implements, it is probable that such fine Indian relics attained their highest development at the hands of one person whose efforts were confined to this particular class of articles.

Steuben County has no evidence of a Stone Grave people. No shell heaps, rock shelters, or rock inscriptions have been found. Even tradition, which is shortlived and evanescent, has passed us by. So, when and how the historical Indians of our day "took over," is another unsolved part of our past.

Our story of the historic Indian starts with the location and the study of their village sites. The ideal village or camp site was a firm gravel area, dry, and with level terraces. Springs and running water had to be at hand. The village site shows any or all of the following characteristics:—hut sites, ash-pits, various articles of broken pottery, bone, stone implements, some shell ornaments,

much slate, some copper objects, pipes, many articles of flint and other stone, and vast amounts of refuse. These camp sites have been mostly along Jimmerson Creek, Fawn River, Pigeon Creek, Fish Creek, and around Clear Lake. On the original survey maps of this county, two Indian villages are located. One is a couple of miles north of Hudson which is near a known Indian cemetery on the old George H. Deller farm, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Sunday. This cemetery is in a two acre wooded knoll that has never been destroyed by farming or digging. The first settlers saw the remains of old posts set up on end about the knoll. The other village site was placed on the survey map as being about one mile north and east of Hamilton. The known Indian cemetery at Hamilton was the hill of the Girt Gnagy gravel pit. Some very fine Indian relics were obtained by the early collectors, but at the same time, all opportunity for scientific archaeological research was nullified.

The cemeteries in our county are not signalized by a mound. The graves that have been discovered are most frequently in gravel beds and are revealed by some trivial cause such as an excavation for a cellar or foundation, the cutting of a ditch, or the wash out by some erosion or stream. The graves were generally dispersed among the remains of huts on the site of a village, while others are found at a considerable distance from any signs of habitation.

The Indian was a farmer. He raised corn (maize), beans, peas, pumpkins, watermelons, sunflowers, sweet potatoes, and tobacco. The Indian was a hunter. He hunted large game in our county as Buffalo, Deer, and Turkey, plus all the usual small animals and birds. To the man, the business of hunting was an employment and not a pleasurable pastime. If the women had to do camp life chores, it did not mean that she was a slave, but that each sex had appropriate duties to perform and according to their ideas of things, the labors and pleasures of life were equally divided between them.

The Iroquois Indians passed through our county in an early eastward migration. They left plenty of their triangular war points to testify to their occupancy. The Miamis extended outward from Keokionga (Ft. Wayne) as their central village, and up into our county by way of numerous trails, and Fish Creek. The Pottawattomie tribes over-

flowed from the South Bend area of the St. Joseph river into our county by other trails, and the Fawn and Pigeon Rivers.

In early Indian wars, the Miami Indians were friends of the French and enemies of the English. Later, they were the allies of the English, and against the colonists. They feared the white settler as they loved their native forests, worshipped freedom, and hated restraint. In the colonists, they saw ultimate extinction, destruction, and degradation.

The first whites were French fur traders. The French explored northern Indiana about 1670-1672 under Allouez, Dablon, and soon after, Robert De-LaSalle. Steuben County was under the French Flag until 1763. Pontiac's Indians had swept out all English from this mid-west before France ceded "us" to England by the treaty of Paris in 1763. An example, the whole British garrison at Ft. Wayne was massacred by the Indians after the British leader, Ens. Richard Holmes had been lured outside and shot. The British flag ruled our land until George R. Clark captured Vincennes in 1779 for the 2nd time, to secure us to the side of the 13 colonies as the Northwest Territory.

Since 1763, the Indians were opposed to the settlers. Indians from our County were no doubt with Chief Little Turtle in the defeat of General Josiah Harmar's forces on October 22, 1790, in Ft. Wayne; and in the defeat of Major General Arthur St. Clair, on November 4, 1791, at Ft. Recovery, Ohio. This latter was the most disastrous defeat ever inflicted by the Red men over a superior white force.

Surely many local braves were in the battle of Fallen Timbers, where the Indians lost to Major General Anthony Wayne on August 20th, 1794. Leaders representing Indian tribes of our county attended the treaty of Greenville in 1795.

Tecumseh and his brother, the Prophet, organized the Indian tribes into an all out effort at driving out the settlers of the Northwest Territory, Indiana included, but General Wm. H. Harrison won over them in the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811. The war of 1812 against the British found all Indians in league with the British to kill off all American settlers. The American garrison and people at Ft. Dearborn (Chicago) were ordered to give up that isolated post and move to Ft. Wayne. The Pottawattomie Indians were to pro-



vide them safe escort to Ft. Wayne. Instead, on August 15, 1812, while enroute, most of the men, women, and children were massacred by these Pottawattomie.

The Pottawattomie under Chief Winnamac, conducted a siege of Ft. Wayne from about September 1st, to the 12th, of that same year, 1812. Ft. Wayne held out as the colonial strong point.

The area of Steuben County remained in Indian hands until two cessions, #18 in 1821 which gave the northern half of the county, and #22 which gave up the southern half in 1828.

The first land was entered in 1831 with Indians still in possession of these lovely lakes and hills. The Indians were friendly to the whites except when filled with whiskey. To get them off the land, the Michigan Militia formed a hollow square with all the Pottawattomie inside, and marched them off to join other Indians along the Wabash river for that long march to new homes beyond the Mississippi, under Tipton in 1838.

The Indians of this area were despised, despoiled, cheated, and treated as outcasts, and a legitimate prey of rascally agents and swindlers. When the Indians contended for their rights, manfully resisted aggression, resented imposition, refused to submit to unjust and unconscionable deprivation of their natural rights and privileges, they were branded as remorseless savages whose extermination was a righteous and lawful duty.

A chief lies buried in our County, Red Jacket by name. He was buried at a spot which is now near the Hazenhurst Hotel of Clear Lake. In the 1880's a monument was erected to him and a dedication service was held, with bands and boat races to celebrate. Dr. O. I. Laird attended the above celebration, being eight years old at that time.

But our lasting memorial to the Red Man is our State Park, named Pokagon, in honor of the last Chief by that name. Simon Pokagon became perhaps the most educated Indian of all time. He lived out his life in Michigan, in Allegan County. He visited our County in a speech making get-together.

To honor the last Indian tribe in possession of our county—the Pottawattomies—the State Park Inn was so named.

Thus did a race of people come and live during a period of a thousand or more years in our County, and then pass into oblivion.

## Early History of Steuben County, Indiana

Research does not invent. It reveals, corrects, re-writes, revamps, adds to, brings down to date. This is being done daily in the newspapers. The "Re-write Man" is an institution in all good newspapers. They serve the reader. And so, recognizing that history and historical dates and data are as "unchanging as the stars" we adopt in large measure the information and comment published nearly three quarters of a century ago in a book put out by the Interstate Publishing Company in Chicago. Doubtless they have been out of business for decades, their personnel deceased many years ago. At any rate it has not been possible to contact them.

In that long out-of-print work we learn that all history is essentially local. No record of events, however important, can make a vivid or lasting impression on a reader's mind if the locality of the occurrence is not given due prominence. By association the scenes of great events become sanctified and endeared in the hearts of the people. Who, for instance, can gaze unmoved upon the house which was once the home or birthplace of an illustrious man? Who can give expression to his emotions as he stands upon the ground where some decisive struggle for liberty took place, and so on, ad fin.?

It was more than one hundred and fifty years after Columbus discovered America that the territory embraced in Indiana was explored by members of the white race. Not until 1670-'72 did the white traveler venture as far into the northwest as Indiana or Lake Michigan. It is not known that LaSalle touched or ventured into the territory of Indiana, as he explored the West in 1682 after having discovered the mouth of the Mississippi River. However, he took possession including what is now Indiana in the name of Louis, the King of France, and called it Louisiana.

This country was held and occupied by the great Miami Confederacy of Indians, the Miami proper being the most powerful tribe. Their villages were few and scattered, not strong enough to resist invasion. Even in this early period it is thought that these settlements were infrequently visited by fur traders, adventurers, and eventually by the missionaries who had made their way into the new and unsettled region. No white men had made any settlements sufficiently permanent for a title for national possession.

The French had endeavored to establish a chain of trading posts and colonies, which further increased the jealousy of the English, who opposed any strengthening of settlements in the interior of this country lest they become self supporting and independent of the mother country. Meanwhile the British began establishing Military Posts west of the Alleghanies. This rivalry laid the foundation for the French and Indian general wars, and both sides influenced the Indian tribes for their support. The controversy was terminated in 1763 by a treaty at Paris, by which France ceded to Great Britain all of North America east of the Mississippi except New Orleans and the island on which it is situated. The preceding autumn France had ceded to Spain all the country west of that river.

By this time settlers had gradually moved to the north, Vincennes being the first Indiana Post with eighty-five families, fourteen at Ouiatenon on the Wabash and ten at the joining of the St. Mary's with the St. Joseph, now the city of Fort Wayne. These were probably visited by French fur traders as early as the year 1700.

Thomas Jefferson, the shrewd statesman and Governor of Virginia, saw that the actual occupation of the Northwest Territory was the only solution to keeping it out of the hands of foreigners and the Indians. Therefore he proceeded to appoint General George Rogers Clark, with instructions to select a strong position suitable to erect a fort and garrison for protecting the settlers and to extend conquests toward the Great Lakes on the north. Fort Jefferson was erected on the Mississippi a few miles above the southern limit with the result that the Northwest Territory was added to the State of Virginia. The fact that a chain of Forts was established by the Americans in this vast territory convinced the British Commissioners that we had entitled ourselves to this land.

Through the conquest of General Clark the present Territory of Indiana belonged to Virginia and in 1783 the General Assembly of that state resolved to cede this territory to the General Assembly of the United States. The proposition made by the State of Virginia was accepted and the transfer confirmed early in 1784. Mr. Thomas Jefferson had tried to secure a system of government for the Northwest Territory excluding slavery therefrom, but the South invariably voted him down on the subject. In July of 1787 an organizing

Act without anti-slavery included was pending. On July 13, 1787, the bill became a law and the great Territory, comprising Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin, was consecrated to freedom.

"This Ordinance of 1787 has remarkable and interesting history. The credit is due largely to Nathan Dane, to Rufus King, and Timothy Pickering for suggesting the proviso contained in it against slavery and also for aids to religion and knowledge and for assuring forever the common use, without charge, of the great national highways of the Mississippi, the St. Lawrence and their tributaries, to all citizens of the United States. To Thomas Jefferson is also due much credit, as some of the features of this ordinance were embraced in his Ordinance of 1784." The part taken by each of these foresighted statesmen in the eventful struggle which had so "glorious a consummation in the Ordinance forever, by one imprescriptible and unchanging monument, the very heart of our country, to Freedom, Knowledge and Union will forever honor the names of those illustrious men." "Its most important points were: exclusion of slavery from the Territory forever and the provision for public schools, giving one thirty-sixth of all land for public schools." Be it forever remembered that this Compact declared that "religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to Good Government."

"Thus the great heart of the new nation was prepared to save the Union of States, for it was this Act that was the salvation of the Republic and the destruction of slavery. Thus it stood as a rock in the way of the on-rushing sea of slavery." On October 5th, 1787, Major General Arthur St. Clair was elected by Congress, Governor of the Northwest Territory.

On September 14, 1794, following the success of the American Arms, the army of General Mad Anthony Wayne commenced its march toward the deserted Miami villages arriving October 17th, and on the following day the site of Fort Wayne was selected. The fort was completed November 22, and garrisoned by Col. John F. Hamtramck, who gave the new Fort the name of Fort Wayne. In August of 1795, after several months of active negotiations, General Wayne, that gallant officer, succeeded in concluding a general treaty of peace with all the hostile tribes of the Northwest Territory. This treaty opened the way for the flood of immigration for many years and ultimately made



the States and Territories now constituting the Mighty Northwest.

The Territory of Indiana was organized by the Act of Congress on May 7, 1800, and the seat of Government was placed at Vincennes. William Henry Harrison, a native of Virginia, was appointed as Governor of the new Territory. Though he did not arrive at Vincennes until January of 1801, he immediately called together the Judges of the Territory, who proceeded to pass such laws as were then needed. From that time to 1810 the principal subjects of interest to the people of Indiana were land speculations, adjustments of land titles, negro slavery, the purchase of Indian lands by treaties, and the division of Indiana Territory. In 1805 the Territory of Michigan was organized and next the question of dividing the Territory was agitated. Michigan Territory was then set off, its south line being one drawn from the southern end of Lake Michigan directly east to Lake Erie. From 1806 to 1809 Congress erected the Territory of Illinois to comprise all that part of the Territory lying west of the Wabash River and a direct line drawn from that River and Post of Vincennes due north to the Territorial line between the United States and Canada. The New Territory started off on a journey of prosperity which that section of the United States has ever enjoyed.

During much of the time for the next fifteen years the Government of the new country was a mixture of Military and Civil enterprises which constituted the first steps to the great military campaign of General Harrison. The Indian problems were still unsettled, though General Harrison thought peace with the Indians was more permanent, as through treaties much land had been secured from them.

During the intervening years the conflict with the Indians continued. They felt, bitterly, the treatment and the intrusion of the white settler who constantly claimed the possession of the lands and the woods which the Indians had enjoyed so long. Of the occupancy of Northern Indiana and adjacent territory it is thought that the Miami Tribe must have been the original possessors of this section of the country. They with the Potawatomi claimed much of the land to the Michigan line.

General Harrison's campaign had seen the battle of Tippecanoe, the war with England and the death of Tecumseh, "the most noted Indian since Columbus discovered America." On December 24,

1814, the Treaty for Peace was signed at Ghent—the 9th article of which required that the United States put an end to hostilities with all tribes or nations of the Indians with whom they had been at war.

In July 1837, there was held a meeting to plan for the removal of the Potawatomi to their new home, beyond the Mississippi River. That autumn a group of 800 were conducted "toward the setting sun." The following summer the regular emigration took place and many an Indian begged to stay, declaring that "I would rather die than to be banished from my country." Several years later the Miami Nation was removed to their western home, by coercive means under an escort of the United States troops. Some years after the Miami, as a tribe, left for their new home, the Government of the United States, through its Commissioners, held a treaty November 28, 1840, by which all that remained of the Miami Reserve was thrown open to settlement. In some cases the treaty of 1840 therefore changed the title to the lands granted to the father, in favor of a son.

Thirty-five years later a former man of Fort Wayne, who witnessed the exodus of the Indians said: "Of the 500 Miami who were sent west to new homes in 1845, not ten are alive, and of the western Miami-Tribe residing in Northeastern Oklahoma, not fifty remain. Taken by force from their forests and transplanted to the wild prairies of the West, heartsick and weary, they never became reconciled to their lot and many met death gladly. A few returned to Indiana despite the government in 1858, and they were permitted by Congress to remain here."

The close of the war with Great Britain in 1814 was followed by a great rush of immigration to the Territory of the Northwest and by 1820 Indiana had doubled her population, numbering 147,178. By 1825 to 1830 the immigration continued and each day farther into the wilderness the settler drove his oxen. This was a prosperous time for the young state and the hopes of the settlers were higher than ever before as their crops seemed generally good.

By 1832 there still lingered around two tribes of Indians near the Wabash Valley who again caused trouble resulting in the Black Hawk war. Nevertheless the settlers came. What had been heaven on earth and no place ever the same to the Potawatomi, was to the pioneers a lure and a thrill for adventure, as they first set foot on the

fertile prairies and tramped through the virgin forests of what was to be Steuben County in Indiana.

It was the year of 1831 that the first settlers came to the northern counties to settle. At first the northern section was all LaGrange County organized in 1832, but by 1835 the eastern half was established as the County of Steuben and approved by an Act of the General Assembly of Congress, January 18, 1837, "to enjoy all the rights and jurisdiction which belong to separate and independent counties." The new County was named in honor of Baron Frederick von Steuben, a noted soldier who had served under King Frederick of Prussia. He had come to America during the Revolutionary War and tendered his services to the patriotic cause. He was killed in the battle of Camden, South Carolina, in 1780.

William Carey was appointed by Governor Wallace January 30, 1837, to be the Sheriff of the County as the first officer. On April 11, 1837, a writ of election was issued by Governor Wallace for the election of Clerk, Sheriff, Recorder, two associate Judges, and three Commissioners. Later "it is ordered that Joseph Pierce be, and he is hereby appointed to be County Treasurer." In the same manner, "it is ordered that congressional township number 37 ranges 12 east be set off and organized with privileges of other civil townships and be known as Jackson Civil Township." Thus was the governmental machinery of the new County fully set in motion. At later meetings the other townships were erected. Consult chapters by our capable Associate Editors. The reader will find much additional, authoritative detail.

It is not improbable that during the one hundred and fifty years preceding the first white pioneer from the State of Vermont seeking land, there may have wandered through the forests and around our lakes, either Missionaries, hunters, or traders. It was in 1831 that the first immigrants came to settle in Steuben County. They were the families of Gideon Langdon and John and Jacob Stayner, who are believed to be the very first white men to permanently locate in this territory, later to be Jackson Township of Steuben County.

The life of the pioneers was humble and not to be compared with the life that we enjoy today, yet they were happy in their faith and anticipation. They prepared the avenue of life for the rapidly advancing civilization by enduring hardships and poverty, even toiling with little material

recompense that their posterity might enjoy the full fruition of their labors. They were adventurers in new and untried fields, the pathfinders and the inventors from innate ingenuity leading others to the promised land. In all ages and civilizations the pioneers have been honored, sung about, and sculptured on account of their courage, foresight, and self-sacrificing labor.

Pioneer life in Steuben County was much the same as in every part of the New West. They came with great expectations and found a beautiful region with wonderful trees and level prairies. But the virgin forests had to be felled and made into logs, the prairies broken, and the cabins erected. They had the mills, the school houses, churches and roads to build, a life time of labor rose before them and they determinedly went to work. They had brave hearts not to be dismayed. Many a pretty young woman with her husband, little boys and girls, as she bade farewell to her loved ones, repeated a verse that she had heard her mother say, "the scenes that know us now shall know us no more forever." And as she turned her face to the west, she knew she would never look into their beloved faces again. The long journey to the new, and far distant home was begun over rough roads and country, over rivers and through creeks, pressing forward each day to meet the new obstacles ever encountered. Some evenings, as they stopped they could see the starting point of the morning, the distance covered was so short. The road was very rough and heavily timbered, and it looked very discouraging.

The settlements in Steuben County were of recent date in comparison with the early ones of the East and Southern States. Many stories have been written for young people and children which have given them some idea of the life and experiences of the average settler. It is known that the better way to preserve history is for incidents to be written rather than by a tale retold, because the most simple happening is sometimes glorified beyond recognition by vivid imaginations retelling a fact plainly in the mind of the teller. Every community, large or small, had interesting stories worthy of preserving as history. Each citizen feels a certain pride in the achievements of his community, the growth of industry, the religious, social, and intellectual progress. So it is with all old and new residents of this County, because with the years they will have, and should have, perpetuated our local history. Let us emphasize the importance



of accurate data and dates, as in the future historians will glean from the facts which are now being saved in a preservable form. The greatest importance of local history lies in the interest and enjoyment which we may expect our posterity to gain. It is for you, the "generations to come," that we, the former generations, preserve the facts and figures in 1954, that you may enjoy and appreciate the interest that we have for your future.

There have been great changes in our State, even for those of you who have lived only in the 20th Century—but for the benefit of those who may be interested in reading about the life and character of the early settlers and their work in Steuben County, a portion of this chapter deals briefly. While the old ways are foreign to us today yet they were the only ways for that particular time until new inventions found their place.

The Indian lived in his wigwam and even those were in different degrees of comfort and livability. The pioneer's first cabin was rudely and hastily erected, and in some cases "three faced camps," that is three walls and an open front, but it gave shelter until something better could be built. The cabin of round logs was the next step in progress as it was built more tightly and the cracks between logs were filled with chips and sticks, closely daubed with clay mortar. In these window openings were made and eventually covered with glass. The log "house" was even better, and in distinction from the cabin it was constructed of hewed logs. This was the general style of home for rich and poor. The latter may have had no floors but quite commonly found were the "puncheons" of split logs made as smooth as possible on the upper side and closely fitted together. The roofs of the houses were covered with "shakes," long shingles and even tree bark was used for extra protection held in place by weight poles. Every house had its fireplace and it occupied the center of one wall which was cut through, making an offset, and then built up on three sides with logs. These were about six feet long, lined with stone and daubed with clay mud. The chimney was built of small split sticks plastered together with clay, and rose a very little above the roof.

In another side, perhaps to the front, was cut the doorway and in this space was hung a door made of puncheon or split shingles fastened together with cleats and wooden pins. The hinges, of course, were also of wood and the latch string was made of leather extended to the outside through

a hole a few inches above the latch. A pull lifted the latch from the catch, permitting the door to be opened. In order to lock the door from within, it was only necessary to withdraw the latch string. To this day we still hear the phrase "the latch string is out," indicating a welcome and hospitality to the friend or the newcomer. This wholesomeness was expressed by an early Steuben County pioneer in extending welcome to either friend or stranger who said "Good enough, what there is of it. Plenty of it such as it is."

The home was one room of fair size, 14x14 feet, as it served the family for living, eating, and sleeping, but was easily divided by suspending a quilt, coverlet or even sheet from the upper floor. Later, curtains of chintz were more decorative and used for partitions. In one corner could be seen the loom and perhaps the spinning wheel which had come with the pioneer family as they came across the country, while the kitchen utensils were grouped about the ample fireplace which served for cooking the food as well as heating the cabin. Such equipment was simple and meager. The "Dutch oven," a long handled frying pan, an iron kettle, and sometimes a coffee pot was all the equipment found in the best homes. One young husband made a new turner for the hoe-cakes by straightening and cutting into shape an 18-inch length of a tire rim. In another case a chopping bowl was made from the knot of a tree for his bride that she might make mince meat for the coming winter. Plus these things the andirons also had been brought along.

Cabins had no closets or cupboards as we know them today, but their wardrobes were scanty. A part of one wall was devoted to the family clothing which was hung from pegs driven into the wall. Well-to-do families had allowed space for a loft to be reached by ladder or narrow stairs from the main room. This space was an adequate room for guests, containing a bed, besides serving for spare lumber. With the large families this mode of living called for law and order, consequently not as irksome as might be supposed. With anticipation, they patiently waited until their means increased sufficiently to justify enlarging their home by a lean-to. A double cabin was the happy distinction which only the well-to-do attained.

What would any one of these primitive housewives think of our modern pressure cooking with

electricity or the freezing units that we all take for granted? They had the hard way—to lift the heavy utensils over the hot blaze, and cool their butter in the “spring house.” Yet they lived well, and surely secured the rich vitamins found in the food that they brought in from their gardens and open country, their fields and forests, as there were many stalwart, strong characters among the settlers. The style of cooking was necessarily simple, as it was all done over the log fire in the fireplace. Corn meal in various forms as mush, johnny cake and pone was one of the staple articles of diet. The pone and corn-dodger were cooked in the “dutch oven” set upon a bed of coals, glowing red. The oven being filled with dough, the iron lid heated hot on the fire, was placed over it and then covered with hot embers to bake. After the bread was baked, it was taken from the oven and placed on the hearth to keep warm while the oven served to prepare another food. When a stone wall formed the base of the fireplace, a long iron crane, to which was attached a pot hook, suspended a large iron pot or kettle. This was one of the indispensable utensils. Venison or ham was fried in the oven. Hominy was often added, and wild honey, found in quantities, was a great help. Flour was scarce, but game was plentiful, and the fare of the pioneer was wholesome and well cooked.

Along with other possessions the clothing was simple and entirely home made. As the pioneer planned to come west the supply was necessarily made to serve until flax could be raised from which to make new clothes. Owing to the prairie wolves, the sheep were difficult to keep and it took time before enough wool was secured or flax raised. The mother and daughters were very busy as they had the flannel and linsey to weave to make into garments for themselves and jeans for the men and boys, who wore coon skin caps which they made also. The wool was usually colored by using walnut or other kinds of bark stains; or the light and dark wool mixed together to create “salt and pepper” effect. The home was a place for enjoyable living, for social gatherings, and no stranger was ever denied shelter or food. There was no room for idlers as the work must go on and every one was considered a helper. Each household was a unit for the various steps in making the family clothing—from raising the raw material to carding, spinning, and weaving, to cutting, with improvised patterns and sewing, to the finished product.

Before carding machines were introduced all wool used was carded by hand on cards about four inches wide and ten inches long. Carding was a process of combing the fibers of the wool or flax to prepare the thread for weaving or spinning. The teasel flower head with its stiff hooked spines was very effective for this work, as well as to comb the finished product. Flax, after being dried, broken, beaten, and cleaned, called “scutched,” was spun on a small wheel worked by a treadle, such as now may be seen in museums. Tow, material woven from coarse, short parts of flax, and linen was made into shirts. While they were not beautifully fine, the men and boys were glad for them even though they irritated the skin.

The home of the pioneer was truly the center of the manufactory, their lives were governed by it, and it was the place for congregating in friendly relations. What has been said of life in the early days could be said equally well of the ancestors of most families, as life was more simple than it is today. It is a surprise to find so little complaint about what must have been disappointments and hardships. As one reads more history, one gains a new appreciation of the fact that the study of history gives us the truest understanding of the past. An intimate knowledge of this is not a preventative against new problems, yet we are better able to meet them by understanding our cultural background.

The pioneers came to our shores with ideals and hopes, and while they were never fully attained, they culminated in a strong degree of individualism. They came with hopes for political freedom and with that came theories of religious liberty, which were never quite realized but yet made life more livable.

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### Forests and Wild Life of Steuben County

The resources of LaGrange and Steuben Counties, in common with other Northern Indiana Counties, are found almost entirely in the soil and in the agricultural development of this section of the continent. The following is a partial list of the common trees found growing when the white man first located here: Beech, white oak, burr oak, black oak, red oak, sugar maple, elm, poplar—called tulip tree, white ash, black ash, blue ash, hard maple, pignut hickory, shell-bark hickory, bass wood, black walnut, cherry, sycamore, sassafras, white walnut or butternut, tamarack, cotton-



wood, white pine, coffee nut, red cedar, and box-elder. The walnut, ash, and hickory, at an earlier date, stood at the head of the list of valuable woods. Much valuable timber was destroyed until the civil war days. Men had to clear the forests in order to subdue and cultivate the soil for crop purposes. Hence the forests have vanished, with only a few sturdy groves standing here and there as monuments of beauty and landmarks of pioneer days in the Hoosier State.

Shrubs and fruit of a wild nature included the hawthorn, dog-wood, iron-wood, papaw, plum, hazel, crab apple, shadeberry, huckleberries, cranberries, grapes, blackberries, gooseberries, raspberries, and strawberries.

In the spring the prairies were colorful like Persian carpets, and the forests soon followed with a great variety of color. This continued through the summer and autumn. There were to be found the crimson daisies, purple foxglove, red columbine, lilies, mauve adder's tongue, cardinal flowers, the brilliant fireweed, and always the robin run away (called bergamot), and the wild rose.

The fauna of this portion of the state was not extensive. In the very earliest settlements deer grazed leisurely. Wolves, an infrequent bear, and wildcats, were the animals most feared. Around Ball Lake buffalo were found. The rich little beaver began the fur trade that played an important part in the early days. Furs were all the Indians had to offer for the white man's goods and the chief interest of the early trader was in securing the precious skins. The vicious animal has long since disappeared from the county, as have the wolverine and porcupine, even the prairie rattle snake—the only early poisonous reptile found—has become quite rare.

Many kinds of wild fowl, such as the duck, the quail, the pheasant, and the wild hen added a note of interest besides being helpful as food. The mallard, wood duck, teal, canvasback, and red ears, were found near the lakes. The honking of the wild geese is still heard. The wild turkey was plentiful and the flight of the wild or passenger pigeon was a sight.

There was shame in the extermination of the rarely beautiful wild or passenger pigeon. Until the late sixties there were large flocks of these birds and they were familiar even to the children. It was a larger bird and had more vivid plumage than our common dove. Its whistling whirl of wing and call note was very different from other pig-

eons. As the flocks passed the sun, the birds were so numerous that the shadow on the ground was easily discernible. The flocks were especially large in the years of plentiful beechnuts. The fact that they were so numerous might seem to suggest that they were an endless provision of food but slaughter was so ruthless and needless that these beautiful birds are to be seen no more.

There were many cruel means for capturing large numbers at one time. Birds roosting at night on the low branches of trees were caught with slip-nooses fastened on the ends of poles. At times they were gathered by the hundreds in great nets of cord or rope, after being blinded by men flashing lanterns, and then knocked or shaken from the branches. Their meat was tempting, but the onslaught was so cruel and unnecessary that the species is now extinct. The last bird is thought to have died in the Cincinnati Zoo in the early 1920s.

The pests seemed to be the gophers, chipmunks, and fox squirrels, while the noisy blue-jay was a nuisance. There were no crows to steal the corn, and the house mouse and the common fly had not arrived to annoy the early settler. The robins, Jenny wren, and the swallows had not been found, but the whip-poor-will sang from the trees his monotonous ditty.

The most valuable insect of the pioneer day was the "busy bee," and the red man and his white brother vied with one another in pursuit of its luscious fruit. Honey was very plentiful, and was a godsend to the households of the first settlers, as sugar was to be obtained only from the sugar maple, as a rule.



## The Underground Railroad in Steuben County

By Hon. Maurice McClew

Unless a person of the present time makes a special study of history he can hardly understand how fully the slavery question occupied the minds of the people of this country from the time of the establishment of the constitution until the time of the Civil War. For more than fifty years it was

the leading political issue. It made some men presidents and it defeated others. It was almost the direct cause of the Mexican War, and, of course, the Civil War. The agitation over slavery commenced even before the Revolutionary War. Before that time a Quaker preacher by the name of John Woolman worked all his life for the abolition of the slaves, and not long after his death the Quaker church required all of its members to free their slaves. The Mennonites also frowned on the institution of slavery and most of them freed their slaves not long after the Quakers.

At the time of the Revolution slavery was lawful in all the states, but after the union was established, the New England states began to emancipate the first few slaves they had. The slaves of New York were not fully emancipated until about the year 1827. Slavery was never lawful in the Northwest territory, of which Indiana was a part, and when the state entered the union slavery was prohibited. There gradually grew up a sharp division between the northern free states and the southern slave states. As time passed the sentiment of the North in favor of freeing the slaves became constantly stronger and more outspoken, while in the south the sentiment of the great majority of the white people was in favor of slavery. In the free states it became largely a moral question. Most of the northern churches took a strong stand against it. Perhaps Abraham Lincoln expressed the sentiment of most of the northern people when he said in a speech, "I hate slavery. I hate it because of the monstrous injustice in the institution itself." It was a frequent argument of the southern people that the negro was inferior to the white man. Lincoln also answered this argument by saying, "It is not for me to decide the question of whether the negro is inferior or not. Many white men are inferior to other white men, but that is no reason why we should make the inferior one a slave."

At the time of the Civil War there was a comparatively large number of free negroes in the south. These negroes were largely the descendants of former slaves who had been manumitted by their masters. The most of the free negroes were in the northernmost slave states, but in all the slave states they were under considerable restriction. Every free negro was under the necessity of having a passport if he wished to go any distance from home. These passports were usually issued by certain county officers, and a negro was sup-

posed to have his passport with him if he went any place where he was a stranger. If a slave ran away from a community where there were free negroes, the passports were usually checked over, and if one was missing, the free negro who did not have his passport, if one had been issued him, was likely to be punished. In this way the slave owners prevented the free negroes from turning their passports over to a slave to aid him in escaping. Fredrick Douglass, the prominent negro orator of the later slave times, escaped by using the passport of a free negro. When he got out of the slave states he sent the passport back to the negro who loaned it to him.

It was exceedingly difficult for a slave to escape from a slave state and this was particularly true of the states commonly known as the deep south. The slaves of Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky, as a general thing, were better treated than were the slaves farther south. A man whose father was a slave holder in Virginia before the Civil War told me that when one of his father's slaves became disobedient or refractory, all his father had to do to control him, was to threaten to sell him down south. None of the negroes of the northern slave states wanted to be sold down south. All of them knew something by report of what life meant for a slave there.

It was a long way from the southern states to freedom in the north. If a negro ran away he was likely at first to be chased by blood hounds, and, if he escaped them, he found other obstacles at every step of his way. He was likely to be challenged at any time on the road and asked for his passport, and if he did not have it, he was usually thrown into jail until it could be ascertained where he belonged. And there was always the necessity of the runaway getting food some way. The rivers he had to cross were many and large. He was certain to be exposed to inclement weather, and one of the worst of his dangers, his own colored people might betray him. Usually a reward was offered for the capture of runaway slaves and negroes were many times as willing to take this reward as white men. Many of the slave owners formed associations and hired free negroes who lived in the northern cities, to keep watch for runaway slaves, and notify officers of their presence. Toward the last the sentiment became so strong against these spies that it was about as dangerous for them as it was for the escaped slaves.

To make clear the difficulties in the way of a



slave's escape from the deep south, it may not be amiss to relate the experience of a negro sold into slavery in Mississippi, or Louisiana. This was a free negro of New York state by the name of Solomon Northrop, who was an educated negro, went to Washington city on a business matter, and while there was kidnapped by slave stealers, dragged aboard a ship, and taken south where he was sold in the slave market. At first, as might be expected, he violently asserted his rights, but he was brutally beaten and threatened with death if he made further trouble, and in order to save his life he had to keep silent.

When he was finally sold to work on a plantation, he could find no way to send any word to his wife or people of his whereabouts or condition. He was not allowed to have any writing material, or to go near a post office; in fact he was a considerable distance from a post office. He did not dare to give a letter to a white person to mail for fear of betrayal, and the other negroes around him had no more access to a post office than he had. If he made any protest about his captivity it would only result in further punishment. He was a slave nearly twelve years before he found any means of getting a message back to his native state. Finally the owner of the plantation where he was a slave, hired a carpenter from the north to do some building on the plantation, and Northrop was ordered to help him. One day this carpenter spoke of having been in Montreal or Quebec, and finally Northrop told him he had been in the city he mentioned. The carpenter looked at him in amazement and asked him how he had happened to be there. In the end Northrop told him the story of his life and kidnapping. When the carpenter later on went north, he either took letters back to Northrop's people, or got in touch with the authorities of New York state, for some months later a United States Marshal and an officer from New York appeared at the plantation and took Northrop away and back to freedom. It can easily be conjectured that if an educated negro, like Northrop, could find no way in twelve years to escape, that an ignorant slave would stand very little chance.

And yet there were always slaves who attempted to escape, and there were always some who were successful. There were some things that favored them. Sometimes, though rarely, they were aided by southern white people. In general, unless their conduct was bad or they were persistently disobedient, the slaves were not overworked or

cruelly treated. The southern white people grew up among them and were used to their slack ways and indolent industry, and took their faults as a matter of course. But there were slave holders who were drunken and brutal, and the neighbors of such men were sometimes known to aid the slaves of such a man to escape. Very few of the mountaineers of the southern states had slaves, and as a rule they were not favorable to the institution. If a slave could get to the mountains and among the mountain people, he stood a fair chance of getting help. Some managed to get north as stowaways on river steamers. Some few managed to get north by traveling nights on foot and hiding daytimes, but those who tried this were oftener recaptured.

But when a negro once got across the border of a free state, he had a good chance of getting on north. The federal law provided for his arrest on sight, but even though people might not wish to aid him, or favor his escape, it might be dangerous to stop him. If he happened to be a free negro, the white man stopping him might be liable to a suit for damages, as there were plenty of anti-slavery people to help a negro in such litigation. And where a negro once got into the security of the underground railroad, as it was called, he was pretty safe from re-capture. Certain places in the northern states became havens for escaped slaves. If they reached one of these places, they were helped to get to Canada, and in any event they were protected. There were such towns in Pennsylvania, and places like Oberlin, in Ohio, and Battle Creek, in Michigan. In Pennsylvania these towns were usually Mennonite or Quaker towns. Oberlin happened to be settled by people of strong anti-slavery sentiment, and Battle Creek had a large proportion of Quaker people. Nearly all of the runaway negroes who came through Steuben County were headed for Battle Creek.

The so-called underground railroad was simply a loose organization of anti-slavery people in the north who helped the runaways to escape. There were many routes through the northern states, and Indiana had its share. The southern part of Indiana, as well as Ohio and Illinois, was largely settled by people who were opposed to slavery, while some religious groups among them, particularly the Quakers, were active in opposition to it. The underground routes ran all the way from the Ohio river to the northern end of the state, and it is impossible to ascertain now just how many routes

there were; in fact, they were undoubtedly changed from time to time.

As nearly as I have ever been able to find out, slaves began to go through this part of the state at an early date. In Steuben County there were two well determined routes over which the slaves were generally taken. One of these followed pretty closely the roads nearest to the present route of state highway 327, and ran through Orland. The other came into the county south of Angola, and from Angola followed the Fremont and Angola road through Fremont, and from Fremont across the Michigan line to Kinderhook. In all probability these routes shifted from time to time. At that time there was a road that ran northeast from Angola over the hills, but which was abandoned after the Civil War. In the northeast corner of Pleasant Township there was a roadside inn, known as the Van Horn Place, and a man who lived in the neighborhood when he was young, told me that runaway slaves were kept there.

Steuben County had a considerable number of pro-slavery men, and the movements of the runaway slaves in the county were made with a good deal of secrecy.

There were many interesting sidelights that were connected with the slavery question in America. As in most cases when a great political controversy arises in a nation it produces unusual characters, and it was so with slavery in this country. In reality Abraham Lincoln was largely a product of the slavery issue, in fact he may have been unknown today had it not been for slavery. Frederick Douglass, who was born a slave, and who managed while a slave to learn to read and write, and who finally became a really great orator, was the most prominent negro character developed in the great controversy. But one of the strangest of the negro characters, who became prominent during the period before the civil war, was a negro woman, who went by the name of Sojourner Truth. She was born a slave in New York state before slavery was abolished there, and it was not until she was past middle age that she, or any one else, discovered her ability. It turned out that she had a remarkable gift of speech and an astonishing native wit, and she finally became a noted anti-slavery lecturer.

She came to Steuben County at one time, and lectured at Angola, Fremont, and Orland. From what I could learn of her lecture at Angola, it was

a pretty tumultuous affair. A number of pro-slavery men went to the meeting on purpose to interrupt and heckle her, but she proved to be more than a match for them. A Doctor Morse, who lived in the town, shouted a half ribald epithet at her, but her reply to him was so prompt and derisive that he left the meeting amid the jeers and laughter of the anti-slavery people, and it was reported that for a long time afterward, mischievous boys about the town would call to him, from a safe distance, and ask him how he liked Sojourner Truth. One of the anti-slavery men of the county was arrested for harboring, as the expression is in the affidavit, "one nigger, Sojourner Truth," but there is no record of a conviction. Sojourner Truth stayed at the home of my grandfather for a few days while in the county. My mother was too young to remember much about her, but I remember hearing my uncle, who was eight years older than my mother, tell about the negro woman. He said she was a large woman, quite dark, with a strong voice, and that off the lecture platform, she was quiet, religious, and well behaved. A number of the histories and biographies of the time refer to her in one way or another.

One of the strongest and most outspoken of the pro-slavery men of the county was a doctor at Orland by the name of Madison Marsh. At one time he was a member of the Indiana legislature, being the representative from Steuben and DeKalb counties. Marsh was also a deputy United States Marshal for Indiana, and as such was in a better position to make trouble for the anti-slavery people. A man by the name of Samuel Barry, who was commonly known as Captain Barry, lived in Orland when Marsh was there, and Marsh and two or three of his associates had Barry arrested for aiding a slave to escape. I am unable to give the exact date of Barry's arrest, but it must have been in the early 1850's. A mass meeting in protest against Barry's arrest was held at Orland which was attended, it was reported, by more than a thousand people, a very large number for the time, and the largest meeting ever held in the county in an early day. One of my uncles told me that my grandparents, my father's parents, travelled the twelve or thirteen miles from their home to Orland in an ox wagon to attend this meeting. Barry was taken to Indianapolis for a hearing, and while it seems that there was very little doubt of his complicity in helping slaves to escape, in this particular case he was not convicted.



It is impossible at the present time to give any exact or detailed history of the workings of the underground railroad in Steuben County, or for that matter in any Indiana county. Everything was done with secrecy. No one published the fact when a slave entered the county or advertised the fact when he left. No resident made known the fact that he kept runaway slaves. It is now ninety years since the slaves were freed. The people who actually knew of the operations of the underground railroad have long been dead. All I know, or can learn about it, I have been told by the people who were living at the time. My father and mother remembered something of it, and on some occasions I talked with others. Marvin Butler, a Union soldier, told me a number of things about the underground railroad. He may not have helped in aiding slaves to escape, but he knew some of those who did. Butler lived in the west part of the county and was more familiar with the route of the runaways who went toward Orland. A man by the name of Walters, who lived near Fremont, also knew considerable about the workings of the underground railroad, and I have heard him talk about it.

There must have been quite a large number of people in the county who aided the slaves. Both of the men who founded Angola were anti-slavery men. My mother's father, Erastus Farnham, who was at one time county surveyor, was a pretty active member of the underground organization. He lived about two miles south of Fremont, near the Fremont and Angola road. He had lived in the south at one time and had witnessed slavery in operation, and this gave him a strong prejudice against it. My mother told me that the first negro she ever saw was a runaway slave who was brought to my grandfather's house and kept hidden until he could be taken on north at night. If a night happened to be very dark or stormy, runaways were sometimes transported to some place farther north on horseback, or other means of conveyance, but more often they were guided by some one on foot, always at night. There was a great deal of timber at the time and it was relatively easy to keep concealed. These runaway slaves were never numerous in the county, and my mother said she doubted if more than two or three were kept at her father's home in any one year. She said that she was always strongly cautioned never to tell anyone about the negroes sheltered there.

My grandfather had a brother named Avery Farnham, who lived on the Fremont and Angola road not far from my grandfather's place. He also kept runaway slaves and helped them to make their way to freedom. He was a man of great determination and force of character, and he is reported to have said that if anyone tried to interfere with him while aiding a slave, he would kill the person on the spot. I was told that his wife worried for fear something of the sort might happen, but he was never molested, though both he and my grandfather were generally suspected of aiding the slaves.

The runaways who reached either my grandfather's or my great uncle's place were taken across the Michigan line on their next journey, usually to the home of a man named John Waterhouse, who lived near Kinderhook, and here they were practically safe from re-capture, as the sentiment in their favor was much stronger in Michigan than it was in Indiana. This John Waterhouse was a leading anti-slavery man, and it was reported of him that he did more for runaway slaves than any one man in Michigan, south of Battle Creek. Many of the slaves who reached Orland were taken to his place.

There were a number of men in the county besides Madison Marsh who were prejudiced very strongly in favor of slavery. One man in particular who lived in the south part of the county was a constant threat to those who aided the slaves, but strange to say, when the Civil War broke out, one of his sons enlisted in the Union army and fought bravely for the north, and what turned out ultimately to be the freedom of the slaves. It was not so, however, with Madison Marsh. At the commencement of the Civil War, he went south, enlisted in the Confederate army, was made a captain, and was finally killed in battle. One thing, at least, can be said of him, he lived up to his convictions and eventually died for them.

Those were times of strong convictions and strong wills, and nowhere were they manifested more than in the matter of the slavery question and in the operation of the underground railroad.

As I stated before, it has been ninety years since the emancipation of the slaves, and there has been a marvellous change since that time, not only in the progress of the negro race as a whole, but also in the attitude of the white race toward the black one. The southern white people would not re-establish slavery now if they could. The

negro now has a multitude of schools and colleges, and by far the larger part of the race is getting some degree of education, and with education the negroes are becoming better citizens. They have entered almost all trades and professions, and some have been successful in all. When Booker T. Washington lectured in Angola more than fifty years ago, he told his audience that the only way the negro could get the respect of the white man was to earn it. More and more he has been earning that respect. In all of our great wars since that time, he has fought side by side with the white man, and often with conspicuous bravery. And the negroes of the United States now own many, many, millions of dollars worth of property.

Every year now, thousands of colored men and women, in their own automobiles, travel over the roads of Steuben County, where once the people of their race could only travel like hunted wild beasts, with a price on their heads, but an unconquerable love for freedom in their hearts.

### Old Settlers' Society

In 1873 there was published in the columns of the Steuben County newspapers a call for a meeting to plan the organization of an Old Settlers' Society, such as had already been started in many counties of Indiana.

Men from the various townships who acted as vice-presidents at the meeting were:

Jamestown—Clayton Mallory, Cephas McCullen, and John McClue.

Fremont—Jeremiah Tillotson, Theron Storrs, and Willard L. Scott.

Clear Lake—George Hotchkiss, David Harris, and D. B. Teeters.

Jackson—Z. Stayner, Amasa Sams, and Peter Gleason.

Pleasant—George W. Baldwin, Abe Sowle, and Lewis Stealey.

Scott—Augustus Woodworth, James A. Segur, and Nelson Hutchins.

York—Calvin Powers, David Hanselman, and H. P. Hathaway.

Salem—Eli M. Teal, Eldridge Wright, and H. P. Butler.

Steuben—Samuel Carter, Jacob Abby, and Capt. S. B. George.

Otsego—Henry B. Williams, A. J. Corbin, and Ed. C. Johnson.

Richland—M. B. Gordon, S. W. Scoville, and John Cameron.

The first Jubilee for Old Settlers was held September 25, 1873, and a large crowd gathered at the County Court House. There was no formal program planned, and the day was spent largely in reminiscing of incidents, anecdotes, and landmarks of the early days. Music was furnished by the Angola Brass Band.

In the following years the Reunions were held at McConnell's Grove, with the usual dinner served from well-filled baskets, talks by the earliest settlers, and music by the Angola Silver Cornet Band, the Angola Ladies' Band, and a Martial Band of Drum and Fife. At the Reunion of 1878 an address was given by the Hon. Cyrus G. Luce, the Governor of Michigan.

The Steuben County Pioneers' Association was organized August 9, 1873, and the twenty-fifth Anniversary meeting was held on August 11, 1898, with an estimated crowd of 10,000 in attendance. The officers were: President, Judge Stephen A. Powers; Vice-President, W. E. Kimsey; Secretary, Fred Schneider; Captain, Pint Snyder; Marshal, Lew Griffith. The above names represent some of the early members of the Association, and men who played a prominent part in the early history of Steuben County.

Other old Settlers' Society members were: Truman Allen, David W. Gaylord, George R. Hershey, George Harding, John Harpham, Ebinezer Hoadley, Miles Kimball, Dr. George McConnell, Clark Powers, Stephen Powers, Phillip Ritter, Chester D. Salsbury, L. H. Stocker, Demary Tillotson, Joseph Tousley, N. P. Townsend, and Abner Winsor.

At the meeting of August 16, 1894, an address was given by Simon Pokagon, last Chief of the Pokagon band of the Pottawatomie Indians, who at one time roamed this county.

The Old Settlers' Reunions continued into the new Century, but interest lessened, and the last meeting of the Steuben County Old Settlers' Association of which we have any record was held in 1910. It was at this meeting when the Hon. Frank Powers read his timely and memorable poem:



### Old Settlers' Day

There's a custom long established and respected  
on our part  
Which, with kindred ties and feelings, is the mag-  
net of each heart  
That draws us here together, where surrounding  
scenes supply  
A wealth of rare tradition that will interest you  
and I.

There's a charming, thrilling pleasure that per-  
vades us to behold  
The woodlands, hills and valleys—these friends we  
know of old—  
And they seem to smile a greeting in the old fa-  
miliar way,  
And recall our long lost childhood, as we meet  
again today.

While our thoughts are turning backward to the  
days of long ago,  
To that band of sturdy settlers who marched on to  
"Westward Ho,"  
With their train of covered wagons, winding round  
through wood and glen  
Phantom like, through trackless forest, seeking  
homes in Old Steuben.

Then the clearing and the cabin through the mist  
of time appear,  
The budding germs of future greatness, visions  
broadening year by year  
Into endless transformations of untamed nature's  
broad domain,  
With a priceless wealth and glory of hamlets,  
homes and fields of grain.

And this drama of the ages closes on the man with  
silvered hair,  
Telling the story to the children clustered round  
his old arm chair.  
Then a grave upon the hillside, and his restless  
spirit stilled,  
The mission of the pioneer has ended—his life is  
prophecy fulfilled.

Now, across this fruitful country, once the home  
of savage life,  
Speeds the shrieking locomotive, heralding this  
age of strife.  
Quiltings, paring bees and huskings sound of plea-  
sure all unknown  
To the present generation who live, and love, and  
quarrel by telephone.

Where the rudely formed school house—Mecca of  
a bygone age—  
Stood, the sacred shrine of knowledge, in our  
daily pilgrimage;  
Where we conquered stubborn figures and sub-  
dued the alphabet,  
A stately modern structure stands to fill remem-  
brance with regret.

The meadow land still slumbering on in blissful,  
calm repose  
Beneath its mantle green embroidered with silver  
creek that flows  
Where the deep green of the forest skirt the ever-  
lasting hills,  
Has lost its dearest treasures in the thoughts  
which it instills.

For the beauty and enchantment of the scene that  
meets our view  
Wears a shade of disappointment, and a saddened,  
sombre hue.  
While we scan its features closely, we are con-  
scious of a change  
As our youthful visions vanish in a landscape new  
and strange.

On the old, worn face of nature there somehow  
seems to be  
A disguised and masked appearance, and a changed  
identity.  
With a sudden pang of sorrow, we reluctantly face  
the truth  
That unsparing fate has marked us victims of the  
foe of youth.

Thus, this rapid retrospection savors first of plea-  
sure, then of pain,  
Past and present blend together, separate, then  
meet again  
Like kaleidoscopic figures, and in ever changing  
form and hue  
Present a passing panoramic of the past in swift  
review.

In fairyland of childhood let's forget the cheer-  
less now,  
Let's restore the faded roses and smooth out the  
wrinkled brow,  
For this transient dream will fade and pass away.  
Let's be boys and girls together, if it be better to-  
day.

What's the use inviting trouble—it will come with-  
out request—

Let us banish care and sorrow; let joy be the bid-  
den guest,

While the same old sun is showering splendor on  
the neighboring hills,

And the same old wind, in whispers, stirs the  
leaves with rapturous thrill.

Let us revel in the beauty of the fields we used to  
roam;

Let fond memories personations fill the old aban-  
doned home;

Let us bow our heads and listen, and our yearn-  
ing souls rejoice

In the echoed intonations of a loved, long silent,  
voice.

Let us pay deserved tribute, to a name we all re-  
vere

And with reminiscent song and story venerate the  
pioneer.

In his wealth of grand achievements there's im-  
mortal fame enough

For our ancestry who fashioned this fair country  
from the rough.

And these recollections, fading in the shadow of  
the past;

And the joys that gild the future with a radiance  
while they last,

And these hopes—these boundless hopes—of the  
present and beyond

All are breathing words of welcome—to this greet-  
ing all respond.

Then as living incarnations of the cause that brings  
us here,

Let us with sweet remembrance fill each minute  
with a year.

And the day's enjoyment ended, let our partings  
cause no pain—

Let the blessed hope attend us that we shall live  
to meet again.

### The 28th Annual Old Settlers Meeting

A copy of the program of the 28th Annual Old Settlers Meeting preserved these 54 years by Nina Reader Kemery and loaned to us will be of interest to many readers of this History.

The front page carries a picture of S. A. Powers, Pres., and proclaims that there will be Oratory,

Music, Drama, Fireworks, Balloons, and Amusements Thursday, August 15, 1901. The formal program got underway at 10:00 a.m., recessed from 12 to 1:30 for a great picnic dinner, and continued until around 4 p.m. After the exercises in the grove, there were the following attractions on the public square: The Man on Horseback, Music by three Bands, the Melrose's High Wire Acts, Prof. DeLancey's balloons, Band Concert, Grand Display of Fireworks, and at 8:00 p.m., Theater at the Opera House. This last, the special evening attraction, was given to help defray the expenses of the different attractions. Reserved seats were 25 and 35 cents. The play was "Human Hearts," and was said to be one of the strongest and most thrilling in detail of any drama ever produced in Angola—deserving the highest commendation for the powerful manner rendered. Specialties were introduced between acts in a repertoire of novelties of illustrated songs, instantaneous crayon work by the celebrated sketch artist, Sir Frederick Frisbee.

This was the Cast of Characters:

Tom Logan .....	Frank L. Adams
Jimmy Logan .....	Jack Ochs
Jem Mason .....	Chas. Elya
Richard Armsdale .....	Guy Shaughness
Mose Jones .....	Royal Carpenter
Limp Morgan {	Ray Carver
Edward Brown {	
Gov. Markham {	Frank Bassett
Sam Logan {	
Sec'y to Governor {	Carver Wood
Prison Warden {	
Mike Corrigan .....	Thos. Gibbs
Jeanette Logan .....	Blanche Reader
Samantha Logan .....	Tressa Moss Zimmer
Ruth Larkins .....	Dot Gibson (Carpenter)
Grace Logan .....	Vieve Dutter

To the man present at the meeting who had resided the longest in Steuben County, they gave a neat badge. To the woman present who had resided longest in the county was given a nice silver cup, and to the prettiest girl present from anywhere, a pretty silver spoon. Prof. A. W. Long determined who should receive the prizes. It was hoped that every girl in Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana would enter the contest.

The Aerial Bicycle Act was billed as the Sensation of the Day by Mr. P. C. Melrose and wife riding their bicycle on a high wire over the public square and with the bicycle not attached to the



wire. Everyone was urged to come to see America's Greatest High Wire Bicyclists.

Mr. Henry Enfield was to be on hand with his new and improved Merry-Go-Round to delight the children.

The Fireworks Display included Jeweled Streamers and the Hanging Chains and the Parachute Rockets bursting among the clouds, releasing their chains of jeweled stars and showers of golden scintillations, their sapphire and emerald meteors. The music was by three bands: The Ladies' Military Band, of Waterloo, composed of fourteen young ladies, The Edon Band, composed of 25 young men, and the Angola Band, which had taken many prizes.

There were 500 seats for Old Folks, and 1000 Gallons of free coffee.

Following is the Formal Program.

#### Forenoon

Music .....	The Three Bands
Prayer .....	Rev. A. G. Neal
Song .....	Prof. Harshman
Reading of Obituaries .....	O. F. Rakestraw
Election of Officers	
Song .....	Miss Allie Truesdale
The Pioneers .....	Hon. M. B. Butler
Song .....	Pirl Gates
Early Times .....	Rev. W. H. Keyes
Reminiscences .....	John F. Folck
Song .....	Vevie Dutter

#### Afternoon

Prayer .....	Rev. C. S. Medbury
Music .....	Ladies Military Band
Song .....	Tri-State Normal College Quartet
Address .....	Hon. Freeman Kelley
Music .....	Angola High School Mandolin Club
Oration .....	Clyde C. Carlin
Song .....	Miss Fisk
Address—"Veterans of the Thirties"	
	Hon. N. W. Gilbert
Awarding Prizes .....	Prof. A. W. Long
Music .....	Salem Chorus Class
Song .....	Pauline Wambaugh
Song .....	Pirl Gates
Oration—"Veterans of the Sixties"	

	Hon. Jno. W. Hanan
Song .....	Salem Double Quartet
Benediction .....	Rev. W. S. Gandy

The retiring officers at this meeting were: Jack Croxton, Marshal, S. A. Powers, Pres., and O. F. Rakestraw, Sec.

## Landmarks of Steuben County

There appeared in The Angola Herald in 1942 a series of articles about defunct towns in Steuben County. They were from the records and the pen of Orville Stevens. They are reproduced here as interesting commentaries which attracted much attention at the time. They appeared in the Angola Herald January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13, 20, 27, March 13 and 20, 1942. Here they are to bring you up to date or back to date for your edification:

### January 9, 1942.

The site of the (old) town of Julius is on Federal Highway No. 20, six miles west of Angola, at the four corners known to many residents of this county as "Fasts Corners" and on the land now owned by Ed Baker and the land of A. K. Bodley, et al.

It is estimated that over a million people pass through Angola each year on Road No. 20, and these millions pass along the site of Julius and never know that at one time a large town was platted there, so completely has the memory of the "defunct" town passed out of existence.

Julius was platted August 26, 1836, by Thomas Gale, George Whitaker, James Whitaker, Artemus Stone, and Ephraim Seely and consisted of 152 lots 66 by 132 feet in dimension (the Original Plat of Angola had but 112 lots); there was a public square larger than the square in Angola and the town extended from the south side of the present location of Road 20 south to Pigeon Creek; the present north and south road is located on Main Street of the Village.

The town, like many others of the vanished towns of the county, was located on the old Defiance and White Pigeon Road which has also vanished. This road ran along the north side of the village for two blocks, then turned and ran in a northwesterly direction toward the site of Winchester which was platted a year later.

The home of Ed Baker is now located on lots included in Block one of said Plat and the buildings on the Bodley farm are on land platted as lots 1 and 2 Block 4 of Julius. Older residents will recall that two houses erected on this site by Bert Manahan were destroyed by fire.

October 1, 1836, Artemus Stone sold one-half of his fifth interest in the large tract of land to Malachi Loveland of Geneva, New York, and this recital is contained in the deed: "upon a part of

which is the village of Julius now on record in the office of the Recorder," and on August 6, 1838, Stone sold the other one-half interest to Loveland, "subject to the sales of certain village lots made by the party of the first part" so there was some real estate activity in the town.

June 22, 1837, Linus Yale (Gale) mortgaged a one-eighth interest in 436 acres, "also block 17 containing eight lots and lots 4 and 5 block 12 in the village of Julius on said tract."

John Thompson, who purchased Griswold's Mill (Flint), and who owned large tracts of land in Jackson and Salem Townships, bought out several of the owners of Julius and on the 18th day of June, 1845, filed a petition in the Steuben Circuit Court, making Thomas Gale, Artemus Stone, M. Loveland, Linus Gale, Julia McConnell, et al, defendants, in which suit the town of Julius is mentioned many times.

There were two factors that decided the five men to plat Julius: the first was its location on the Defiance and White Pigeon Road, and the other was anticipated water power from Pigeon River; but after the town was platted it was discovered that the temporary dam that was built would not raise the water to sufficient height to furnish power of any great amount due to the fact that it overflowed too large an area of land and there was not sufficient water to fill so large a mill pond.

It is interesting to note that four months before the town of Julius was established, Thomas Gale, one of the founders, came six miles farther east and with Cornelius Gilmore entered section 26 in Pleasant Township where Angola is located, and where in 1838, they platted what is now the county seat town, although he probably had no idea at that time of starting the village of Angola, as Julius was to be the big town.

#### January 16, 1942

##### Steuben

The town of Steuben was the first town or village established or platted in Steuben County, and was by far the largest and most prosperous of all the vanished towns of the county. The town was located on the Old Defiance and White Pigeon Trail, about three-quarters of a mile north of the main street in what is now Pleasant Lake, and was on the east and west sides of the present road and on land now owned by the Matson Estate and by Bessie and Bertha Albright.

Isaac Glover, who entered the land on the west side of the road and who purchased the land on the east side of the road from Reuben Warnick, entryman, had the town surveyed by John Kroner, Surveyor, in October, 1835, and dedicated the plat to the public November 12, 1835. The first plat consisted of fifteen blocks of eight lots each, three of which blocks, 1, 3, and 7, were marked "blank" on the plat and in the dedication it is stated that these three blocks were "set off for public use." This plat is recorded in Deed Record Volume 2, page 130 of LaGrange County, which included Steuben County at that time.

The street farthest west was called First Street and it is shown adjacent to the mill pond on the plat. The north and south streets were marked First to Sixth Streets. There were four east and west streets named Joseph, Armstrong, Mary, and Glover Streets. (Joseph and John Armstrong purchased the first lots, so evidently the two north streets were named for them, Mary Street evidently was named after Mary Glover, wife of Isaac Glover, and Glover Street for the founder).

The ford across Pigeon River, where the old road crossed, and which ford is mentioned in the written accounts of Abner Winsor and other early settlers, was located about thirty rods down the stream from the village, according to Giles T. Abbey, who came to Steuben in the fall of 1838; this ford was the only place that Pigeon River could be crossed by team for several miles and was used for some years until a bridge could be built. (The first bridge in Steuben County was built on this old road where it crossed between Silver Lake and Hog Back Lake).

A large number of lots were sold in this village and some forty or fifty houses were erected, some of logs, a few of brick, but mostly frame houses. Dr. Conant built a large two-story store building near the bank of Pigeon River, but the building was never used as a store for some reason.

The Tavern was on the west side of the highway opposite the house later built by Dr. Alonzo P. Clark. This tavern was kept by Seth W. Murray, one of the very early settlers of the county.

Evidently there was quite a boom in this village in the early part of the year 1837, for the town was replatted on March 27, 1837, by Isaac Glover, and several more blocks added with several additional streets included, and the shape of the town was changed considerably.



Between the time the first plat of Steuben was recorded and the second plat was established, Abner Winsor platted the town of East Steuben to the east of Steuben Village on land now owned by his granddaughter, Mrs. Vermont Finley and her husband. The future prospects of this center of civilization must have been very bright in the years 1835 and 1836 but something happened in the year 1837 that broke the spirit of the founders and inhabitants of this early metropolis, and the promoter, Isaac Glover, lost his entire property and moved away.

(To be continued)

**January 23, 1942**

#### **Steuben—Continued**

In the year 1836 Thomas Gale, the town builder, came down the Defiance and White Pigeon trail from LaGrange County, and with four other men, established the town of Julius, six miles west of Angola. He then went on down the trail to the town of Steuben, looked the situation over, and with his partner Cornelius Gilmore, tried to form a partnership with Isaac Glover and make a real town out of the Village of Steuben. Mr. Glover refused to have any business dealings whatever with Gale and Gilmore due to religious differences: Glover being a staunch member of one of the outstanding churches while Gale (and possibly Gilmore) was a Spiritualist (commonly called "Free Lover"), and this difference of opinion led to the controversy over the location of the county seat of Steuben County.

The County of LaGrange was organized February 2, 1832, and "all the territory lying east of said county to the state line, and south of said county and said territory to the line between townships 33 and 34" was attached thereto for civil and judicial purposes; this territory included all of the present County of Steuben and the north twelve miles of what is now DeKalb County.

Gale and Gilmore, failing to acquire an interest in the thriving town of Steuben, came farther north and east and decided to start an opposition town at the center of section 26, Pleasant Township, which section they had entered at Fort Wayne Land office April 4, 1836; this town they did establish June 28, 1836 as Angola. Before they risked establishing the town, however, they had to first do some work behind the scenes, for the town of Steuben, being nearer the center of the unnamed territory and having a fine start of build-

ings, enterprise and population, was the logical location for the county seat.

In the fall elections of 1836 Thomas Gale, by skillful work, was elected State Representative for LaGrange County, and at the January session, 1837, of the State Legislature of Indiana, introduced a bill to establish the County of Steuben, to include only the present area of the county, and to drop off the two south tiers of townships. The bill passed, and Steuben County was organized as a separate county January 18, 1837. Angola, then being somewhere near the center of the new county, was selected as the county seat. At that time the town of Angola had not been established, but had been platted, and the plat was introduced in evidence, together with a promise of a court house without cost to the county and a representation that there was a water power site in the east part of the village.

Isaac Glover, failing to get the county seat at the town of Steuben, read the handwriting on the wall, and sold out his interest in the town and farm lands adjoining, to Dr. Alonzo P. Clark, grandfather of John Matson, Sr., of Pleasant Lake, and the town quickly declined, business ceased and eventually the village vanished.

Many of the buildings were moved to other parts of the county. One was moved about one-half mile east to the James Long farm (now owned by Ruth Croxton) and was used for a school house for many years; two buildings were moved to the south part of Pleasant Lake, and occupied as dwellings; others were torn down and moved away, while some that remained after Dr. Clark came, being obstructions to farming, were burned.

About all that remains to remind one of the town is the remains of the old dam on the old course of Pigeon River southwest of the town site; a few stones and brick from foundations that are occasionally plowed or dug up, and the old cemetery about one-half mile north of the town site where many of the first settlers in Steuben are buried, but the graves of most of these pioneers are unmarked and unknown.

(Note: For my authority in stating that religious differences caused the downfall of the town of Steuben, I have the written statement to that effect by Giles T. Abbey, father of Mrs. John B. Parsell of Angola, who states that he came to the town of Steuben, then called Steubenville in the year 1838 and taught his first term of school in the school house mentioned above.)

**January 30, 1942**

**East Steuben**

The town of East Steuben was surveyed by Otis Shepardson, Surveyor, July 4, 1836, and by Winsor dedicated as a town plat and recorded August 2, 1836.

The town was laid out one-half mile east of the town of Steuben, and was a separate plat, but it is stated in the dedication of the plat that it is in part connected with a town "latterly" surveyed and recorded in LaGrange County.

The exact location of the town is well established by the description in the plat, it being located on the northeast corner of section 15, Steuben Township and on the southwest corner of what was later called Winsor's Corners, later called Fisk's Corners, and by some called Croxton's Corners. The land is now owned by Carlotta Fisk Finley, Mrs. Finley being a granddaughter of Abner Winsor, the founder of East Steuben.

The town was made up of six blocks of 10 lots each, making sixty lots in all, and was designated as being two and one-half rods in width east and west and five rods in length north and south. The present buildings on the Finley farm would be located on block number one of said town. Each block was separated by alleys running north and south and east and west through the blocks, the alleys being 24 feet wide (wide enough to turn a wagon loaded with hay).

There were only two streets named on the plat although other streets are shown. The north street, which would be the same as the present east and west road, was called Perrysburg Street; either the street was named for what was called the Perrysburg Road, or the road was named for the street. The next street south was called Sixth Street.

The Perrysburg Road which started at the town of Steuben ran east past the town of East Steuben, across Steuben, Otsego, and Richland Townships, passing one mile south of Metz and straight east to the state line. Its course can be traced through Ohio to Perrysburg on the south side of the Maumee where it empties into Lake Erie. This road is mentioned several times in various deeds along its route, but very few people now remember of it being called the Perrysburg Road, and it was not a regular wagon road at the time East Steuben was platted but was cut all the way through several years later.

The street on the east side of the town of East

Steuben is now Federal Highway No. 27, but there was no road running south of the corner at the time the town was platted as there was no ford across Pigeon River at that time and it was several years after the town was platted before a bridge was constructed over this River and the present road established; also the road running north from this village did not follow the present course of Road No. 27, but was several rods farther west, running on the west side of the old Knight place, now owned by Leon Hutchins, and did not join the present course of No. 27 until it reached the John Chrysler farm.

Abner Winsor was a shrewd business man, of considerable means, and he prospered in this county, but his judgment in starting another town near the then thriving (and soon to vanish) town of Steuben was not sound. When the town of Steuben collapsed there was no hope for the town of East Steuben and it also vanished.

East Steuben was the third town platted in Steuben County and so far as any written evidence is to be had, there was no real estate activity; in fact there has been very little activity in the title to this real estate, it having been in the Abner Winsor family from the time of its entry from the Government, Sept. 25, 1835, to the present time.

Abner Winsor conveyed the part containing the village of East Steuben to his daughter, Mary E. Fish, July 23, 1866, and she re-conveyed to him Dec. 27, 1881; on February 20, 1892, by his last will and testament, Mr. Winsor devised his land to his daughter, Mary Estella Fisk, and her husband Orson Fisk, father and mother of Carlotta M. Finley; after Mrs. Fisk's death Orson Fisk conveyed the land to Carlotta M. Finley who now owns the village of East Steuben.

Note: Abner Winsor wrote an interesting account of his first journey to Steuben County and his struggle with the wild new country which is in the possession of the writer, and a part of which will be published later.

**February 6, 1942**

**James Town**

The village of Old James Town was the second village to be laid out and platted into lots in Steuben County; this village is not the same, as the present town of Jamestown was platted in the year 1853 by the name of Eagleville, and the name was changed some years later.

Original Jamestown was located on the Vistula



or Toledo Road southwest of the present village, and was laid out on both sides of the east and west road and on the east and west banks of the present stream running from Lake George to Mud (Boagey's) Lake. The village was platted on land now owned by Luella A. Griffith and Delson Somerlott on the north side of the road and land owned by Thomas Boagey and William Pfeiffer on the south side of the road.

The plat was surveyed May 22, 1836, by John Kromer, County Surveyor of LaGrange County, for Bazaleel Alvord and Elisha H. Shephard of James Town, and they acknowledged the plat May 24, 1836, before J. T. Hobbs, Recorder of LaGrange County.

The following is a part of the dedication of said plat: "The Village is at the headwaters of Lake James on Fawn River and on the east half of the southwest quarter of section 15 and the east half of the northwest quarter of section 22, township 38 north, range 13 east, Steuben County, Indiana; this plat contains twenty sections (Blocks); all full sections contain eight lots, each lot is 82½ feet by 165 feet. All streets are 66 feet wide except the Toledo Turnpike which is 99 feet." So far as any records are available Alvord and Shephard had no deed to this land and there is no evidence of any lots having been sold on the south side of the Toledo Turnpike, but there were at least nine (9) lots sold north of the Turnpike.

The land on the north side was entered by Josiah G. Folsom and J. M. Mathes July 20, 1835, and sold by the administrator of the estate of Folsom to John and Thomas Knott June 10, 1836. On November 16, 1837, John Knott gave a bond for a deed to Robert Wade for the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of said section 15 containing 40 acres, "except nine village lots in the plat of Jamestown, which is a part of said forty acres and is numbered Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8, section (block) 6; Lot 6, section 5, and Lots 2 and 4, section 2." And on June 9, 1841, John Knott sold the same land with the same lots mentioned to John Nichols, so there was some real estate activity in the village between 1836 and 1841.

Robert Wade who is mentioned above evidently had faith in the future of old Jamestown, for on August 9, 1836, Wade, together with John Masterman and Edwin Adderly platted an addition to Jamestown, known as "Wade and Masterman's Addition to Jamestown" consisting of 20 blocks ad-

joining the original plat on the east, the lots being 4 rods by 166 feet.

It is evident that these founders of James Town were looking for a power site on the stream which was known then as Fawn River, being the head of Lake James. The outlet of Lake James through Jimmerson Lake and the Nevada Mill Pond is called Crooked Creek, but from Orland Mill Pond west it is still called Fawn River and it empties into the St. Joe River at Constantine, Michigan. In looking over the old site of the town there seems to be evidence that a dam was built near the north end of the town, but evidently there was not enough area in the mill pond to justify a power site, the town failed to grow and finally vanished or moved up to the outlet of Lake George where Eagleville, (now Jamestown) was established.

**February 13, 1942**

### **Bowensburg**

The town of Bowensburg was surveyed November 1, 1836, by A. B. Goodwin, Surveyor, for Ebenezer Bowen of Monroe County, New York, and James Bowen of Washington County, Ohio, and by them dedicated as a town November 7, 1836.

Bowensburg was located in the northwest quarter of section 21, Clear Lake Township, the northwest corner of the plat being the northwest corner of the section. The town was located across the road south from the present Clear Lake Baptist Church building, and the present cemetery occupies the northwest part of the plat. To further locate this old town, it can be found by going easterly on the black top road from the Hazen-hurst Hotel about ⅝ of a mile, and the plat extended east to within a few rods of the corner known as McCombs Corners. The southeast corner of the plat is shown bordering on Neptune Lake, which is the small lake on the west side of the road southwest of Long Lake; Neptune Lake has since been named Mirror Lake.

The town was built around a large public square about the size of the Square in Angola and the lots were 66x132 feet in dimension. The streets named from north to south were North Street, Martha Street, Mary Street, and Toledo Street. The present black top highway runs on what was formerly North Street, and Toledo Street was near Neptune Lake. The north and south streets were West Street, Wayne Street, Catherine Street, and Lake Street. Martha Street evidently was named for Martha Bowen, wife of Ebenezer Bowen; Cath-

erine Street for Catherine Bowen, wife of James Bowen.

At the time the town was surveyed the Bowens did not have a deed for the premises, the land having been entered from the Government by John Russell, March 7, 1836, and was deeded by John Russell to the Bowens October 26, 1837, just a week before the plat was dedicated.

There is no record of any lots having been sold or mortgaged in this plat and the Bowens after deeding the land back and forth between the two families, sold all the large farm including the Plat of Bowensburg, December 8, 1853, to Benjamin McLouth, many of whose descendants still live in this county. The land included in the plat of the town, except the cemetery, is now owned by William Crall of Clear Lake Township who probably does not know that he is the owner of the fifth town to be surveyed and platted in Steuben County, so completely has all trace of this town vanished.

From the public square in Bowensburg can be seen the site of the grave of Erastus Brown, who died about 1847, whose will is of record in this county and contains the following interesting item: "With regard to my son George W. Brown, who was very low in health by fever and ague, unexpectedly left home the 30th day of September, 1845, and diligent search having been made to find him, to no purpose, it is thought probable he died in the wilderness the first night under the operation of his ague, I therefore make no provision for him."

This grave has been opened within recent years by vandals but the monument still stands to mark the spot. On the plat of Bowensburg is shown a lake just outside the plat to the south called Middle Lake; this lake was known for many years and is shown in some maps of Clear Lake Township as Burying Ground Lake, getting its name from the burial place of Erastus Brown. Some years ago Thomas P. Riddle dug a canal from Clear Lake to this Lake and changed the name to Lake Ann, naming the lake after his daughter, Ann Riddle. Mr. Riddle, without doubt, thought that lots advertised for sale on beautiful Lake Ann would sell better and sound better than on Burying Ground Lake.

The site of Bowensburg evidently was quite a little community at one time, it being located on a gateway between Clear Lake and Long Lake and between smaller lakes to the north and south. The

road running along the north side of Clear Lake and through the old town was one of the earliest roads cut through in the county. An Indian trail, later widened into a road, ran along the east side of Bowensburg and the chief north and south thoroughfare, and is the location of the present road through the east part of Clear Lake Township. This trail entered the county southwest of Hamilton near the Worden Fee farm, ran northerly along the west side of Fish (Hamilton) Lake across Road No. 1 near Otsego Center where a large Indian village was located, then ran northeast to Williams Corners one and one-fourth miles west of Metz, thence in a northeasterly direction, through York and Clear Lake Townships, to the State Line.

Look over the site of Old Bowensburg, the town that vanished long ago, the next time you drive along those roads.

**February 20, 1942**

#### **Concord**

The Village of Concord was the largest village ever platted in Steuben County. The village consisted of 155 lots 66 feet by 132 feet in dimension and being at least one-third larger than the Original Plat of Angola. The village was platted May 1, 1838, just 45 days after Orland was platted and 55 days before Angola was laid out.

The site of the village is section one, Jackson Township, and Mill Street in said town is now traveled as the north and south road running from Inverness Church south through the section, the town lying on either side of Mill Street and extending south about as far as the Lake Gage Cemetery. The land included in the village of Concord is now owned by Frank E. Jackson, Daniel Danning, Elmer L. Bley, Marion S. Clark, and William E. Johnson and wife, the larger portion being owned by Mr. Jackson.

Main Street, being an east and west street, is now traveled as the Old Angola and Lake Gage-Orland road and runs past the buildings on the Jackson farm.

A small public square 132 feet by 132 feet was located west of the Jackson farm house on the southeast corner of the present intersection of the roads.

The north street in the town, being Sixth Street, is now traveled as the black top road running past the Inverness Church, but all of the town was south of this road. The town that was later



established along the St. Joseph Valley Railway, known as Inverness (which has also almost vanished) was located just north and east of the Village of Concord.

The outlet to Crooked Lake ran along the east side of the village and a short street named Water Street ran south from Main Street to the location of the dam that was built across the outlet a few years ago.

The land in the plat lying east of Mill Street was owned by Heber Miller and the land west of this street was owned by John Merrill. No lots appear to have been sold by Mr. Miller on the east half of the village, but Merrill sold many lots on the west side, two of which were the lots on which the school house was located.

In 1845 Merrill re-purchased the greater number of these lots but as late as April 12, 1869, he sold the 80 acres including the west half of the village, but excepted "Five village lots in the town of Concord," so there was considerable real estate activity in this village from 1838 to 1869.

A dam and well were constructed just east of the village and several buildings erected, one of which was a store on the northwest corner of the intersection of Mill and Main Streets.

The town was surveyed by Erastus Farnham, Surveyor, who surveyed several of the early towns including Angola, and Fremont, and one can notice a similarity in all these plats. Mr. Farnham was the grandfather of Maurice McClew of Angola.

Lack of a sufficient head of water to furnish water power of any great amount, was probably the first cause of the decline of Concord; also the depression in business that followed the Civil War made it difficult to promote villages. Eventually Concord vanished as a town and now is only a memory in the minds of a very few people.

#### **February 27, 1942**

#### **Village of Jackson**

The Village of Jackson was platted September 14, 1837, by Jacob S. VanEps, on the east side of Beaver Lake (now called Beaver Dam Lake) and Beaver Creek in the northwest fractional quarter of section six of Jackson Township.

The site of the village is just west of the north and south road west of the Clyde Spangle farm and on the north side of the east and west road. The public square was located about 900 feet west and 300 feet north of the Clyde Spangle home.

This plat was composed of 17 sections or blocks

of various sizes, with a total of 90 lots east of the creek and lake and 14 lots west of the creek; the streets are named from north to south as follows: Franklin, Jefferson, State, Maiden Lane, and from east to west: Bolivar, Washington, and Mill Street. All streets were three rods wide except State Street which is shown to be 82½ feet in width. The intersection of the present north and south road with the present east and west road is the southeast corner of the Village and it extended north one quarter of a mile and west to a point about 300 feet west of Beaver Creek as it now runs, but the southwest part of the town was only two blocks wide at this point.

There is no description or dedication of this plat and to the casual observer there would be nothing to locate the old village, but by measurements from Beaver Creek made by this writer and by some references in later deeds to the adjoining land and by a study of the plat and the ground where the plat was actually laid out, much is revealed that is not noticed by a brief glance at the plat.

The land on which the plat is located was entered by Jacob S. VanEps of Genesee County, New York, at the General Land Office at Fort Wayne, June 25, 1835, and on August 17, 1837, Van Eps made a deed to Charles P. and Whiting Squires which has the following description: "Commencing at the quarter stake on the north line of section 6, township 37 north, range 12 east, thence south until it strikes the road known as The Defiance and State Road; thence due west 9¼ rods; thence north parallel to the quarter line to the north line of said section; thence east to the place of beginning, containing about eight acres." From this description it is evident that the Defiance and White Pigeon Road passed through this plat and by taking the area of eight acres and dividing by 9¼ rods to get the unknown side of the tract, we get about 2277 feet which would place the Defiance and State road 363 feet north of the south line of said section. By comparison with the plat this dimension places the road on State Street, so the location of the Old Defiance-White Pigeon Road must have been on State Street. Also by looking over the ground it is evident that the old road would not go over the present east and west road, as the old road was formerly an Indian trail and they always kept to the ridges and crossed the lowland at the best place. One can see that the route of the old road is through a natural gateway through the Village of Jackson and out of the

county just west of the lower end of Beaver Lake.

"The first store in Steuben County was kept by Jacob S. VanEps on the bank of Beaver Dam Run, it was built in 1833." (Taken from Historical Atlas of Steuben County 1880, page 12). If the old historian was correct, and he probably was, this store built in 1833 was built some two years before VanEps entered this land. On the plat on the south side of Maiden Lane, two lots, which would have been numbered Lots 7 and 8 in section or block 14, are not numbered and the two lots are crossed with an X, and a circle is superscribed about the center of the X. After several years of looking at this plat and this circled X, the writer believes that these lots were left unnumbered and so marked to indicate that they were not for sale and they probably mark the site of the store or residence of VanEps.

The deed mentioned as being given to Squires and Squires was for land that included all the lots east of Bolivar Street in the plat as far south as State Street; the other real estate activity in the town consisted of four conveyances of lots 3 and 4 in block 14 in the Village of Jackson. These lots were on the south side of State Street and east of Mill Street. Both lots were sold by VanEps to Samuel Alcott September 19, 1837. (Deed Record 1, page 50), and by Alcott and wife sold to Adam and Joseph Litchard August 20, 1838, (Deed Record 1, page 542), and sold by the Litchards to Alexander Ward, December 3, 1839, (Deed Record 1, page 541), and sold by Rebecca Ward and others, heirs of Alexander Ward, March 4, 1848, to Horace Wait who had acquired the balance of the farm which included the plat. Horace Wait sold to Henry Spangle who willed this land to his son Clyde who is now the owner of Jackson.

The History of Steuben County of 1885, page 694 under the biography of Ancil Ward states that he came to Steuben County in June, 1836, with his parents, Alexander and Rebecca Ward; in 1838 they bought a farm in Jackson Township where Alexander Ward died in October, 1842. Probably Alexander Ward died in the Village of Jackson. Alexander Ward was the grandfather of Mrs. Jacob Mountz who lives just west of Angola, and of Walter H. Ward, well known Steuben County citizen.

On the plat of Jackson just south of the present east and west road and on Beaver Creek is shown the location of the "Mill Site" and just below the mill site is the word "Falls." After viewing the

mill site and place where the falls should be, the writer believes that this mill site and falls was purely imaginary, but this was not uncommon in early as well as some of the later plats of towns and villages.

The location of the Village of Jackson was a fairly good site, being on the famous old trail that became a road and was located at the only gateway to the county from the west, at that time, and was about three-quarters of a mile northwest on the Defiance Road from the rival village of Winchester, which was platted about five months prior to Jackson. It was therefore a likely center for trade but the Vermont settlers platted Orland in 1838 and established a good trading center which eventually was the death, downfall, and finish for both Winchester and Jackson.

**March 13, 1942**

#### **Thomas Gale, County Seat Builder**

Thomas Gale, one of the founders of the town of Angola, was a very unusual man due to the fact that with his many other activities he established three county seats in northeastern Indiana and built at least three court houses.

He was born in Orange County, New York, January 2, 1794, and while a boy went to Worthington, Ohio, near Columbus, where he learned the brick-laying and mason trade. Later he acquired considerable means by forwarding cattle and other supplies to the army of General William H. Harrison in his campaign against the British and Indians in western Ohio and northern Indiana. He was married to Sarah Goldsmith September 12, 1820, to which union were born three girls, Elizabeth, who married Dr. Marcus F. Morse, of Angola; Eugenia L., who married Thomas B. Morse, of Angola; and Louisa G., who married Alanson W. Hendry, also of Angola; all three of these later families raised several children but the only descendants of said Thomas Gale who remain in this community are Kathryn Sutton, wife of Herschel Sutton, and their children.

In the spring of 1831, Thomas Gale moved to Mongoquinong Prairie, (Mongo) in LaGrange County, Indiana. His wife, Sarah, had died in Ohio and he had afterwards married Martha Cary. In the year 1832, he moved to Lima (now Howe) Indiana, where he was instrumental in securing the location of the first county seat of LaGrange County at that place and built the first court house there.



Together with Artemas Stone, Ephraim Seely, and George and James Whitaker, he platted the town of Julius six miles west of Angola, August 4, 1836, which town never developed to any extent and finally vanished.

Also in the year 1836 he tried to acquire an interest in the town of Steuben which had been established north of Pleasant Lake, but failed to make a deal with Isaac Glover, owner of said town.

March 4, 1836, Mr. Gale, with one Cornelius Gilmore, a blacksmith and machinist, purchased all of section 26 in Pleasant township and in June, 1838, platted the Original Plat of the present town of Angola.

In the year 1836 he was elected a member of the Indiana legislature and reached Indianapolis in January, 1837, on horseback. In this session of the legislature he secured the appointment of Commissioners who located the county seat at Angola, where he built the first court house on the site of the present court house, and built a jail on the same lot southeast of the Court House. Mr. Gale built the first frame dwelling in the town of Angola on the corner where the Hendry Hotel now stands; this house and lot was sold by Gale to his son-in-law, Marcus F. Morse, in 1849, whose heirs sold the premises to Lewis A. Hendry, who built the present hotel building.

Gale and Gilmore donated lots in the south part of Angola and also in the west part of the town for school sites and also donated the court house lots and county buildings to secure the location of the County Seat.

In the year 1840 with George Whitaker and William M. Harris he laid out the town of Augusta, some four miles southwest of Albion in Noble County and erected a court house there. This was donated to Noble County in consideration of the location of the county seat at Augusta; thus he actually built three court houses and established three county seats. This distinction comes to but few men.

This court house at Augusta was accidentally burned and the county seat moved to Port Mitchell and later to Albion.

(Continued)

**March 20, 1942**

**Thomas Gale (continued)**

Thomas Gale prospered in Angola and acquired a large number of farms in Steuben County. Unlike his partner, Cornelius Gilmore, who sold his

half of Angola within a few years and moved away, Mr. Gale retained the greater part of his lots and land until a short time before his death, when he divided his properties among his children and grandchildren.

In politics, Thomas Gale was in the early days a Henry Clay Whig, but in the year 1840 he actively and ardently espoused the cause of his old Commander, William Henry Harrison, for President, against Martin Van Buren. Afterwards, he cast his lot with the Free Soil Party and was a pronounced Abolitionist, and always aided in all ways within his power the escape of slaves from the south, maintaining a link in the underground railroad.

Mr. Gale belonged to no church, but his house and home were always open to the meetings of the various religious organizations, without any conditions as to their teachings or preaching, except that he should have the right to discuss openly with them the various doctrines to which they adhered. He did not believe that an All-wise God would ever punish a human being of His own Creation, nor that we should in any case take the life of a human being. So strong were his convictions upon this latter subject that, on the trial of Hiram Doty, a notorious offender in this county charged with murder, he engaged and paid for the services of David H. Colerick, an eminent criminal lawyer of Fort Wayne, to defend Doty, alleging that he did not want a capital punishment to tarnish the fair name of the town and county he had taken so much pride in establishing and developing.

When the County of Steuben was established, Thomas Gale was appointed an Associate Judge, which position he filled for several years with credit to himself and evident satisfaction to the citizens of the county.

The first general merchandise store in Steuben County was established by Mr. Gale in 1838; which store he operated until 1850 when he retired from active business as a merchant and devoted his time to improving a large farm southwest of Pleasant Lake, consisting of about 1000 acres. This farm he divided among his children, who divided the land into separate farms which are owned by Jesse Crampton, Bert Wolf, Carl Hardy, Lee V. Grim, and many others.

Mr. Gale died at his home in Angola, January 23, 1865, and thus ended an active life, but his memory still exists and will continue to exist for those who study the history of the county, for he

was a man who went after things, regardless of the difficulties. In modern language he was a "go-getter."

NOTE: Many statements contained in this article were taken from a sketch of the life of Thos. Gale made by Francis Macartney, the original of which is in the possession of the writer.

### Mills

Jackson Township, owing to its favorable location and advantage of water power, was settled with extreme rapidity. A large number of families, taking this into consideration, chose this township as their home and located there, prior to the year of 1840.

The first saw mill in Jackson Township, as well as in Steuben County, was built in Flint in 1834, along the Pigeon River which runs today (1954) southeastward and toward the northwestern line. This was built by Edward Griswald. Here, also, was built a grist mill in connection with the saw mill. The stones of the grist mill were hand made and the bolting cloth was run by hand. In 1838 the mill was sold to John Thompson, who secured better water rights, improved the power, built the race, and removed the saw mill. The mill changed hands several times and then Spencer I. Cleveland purchased the business. In 1858 the mill burned, involving a loss of not less than \$6000. In 1861 the mill was rebuilt by Philo and Wallace Clark, but later was sold to George Smith. However, in 1878, Wallace Clark again was the owner. Once more fire destroyed the mill, this time in 1917. It was never rebuilt.

During 1835 many Vermonters came to the northern part of Millgrove Township, and in 1838 Deacon Timothy Kimball built the first grist mill there, which was of great value to the settlers in improving their daily lives. It ground their grain into meal, and bolted the flour, by water power from the Fawn River, formerly called Crooked Creek. In later years, it was made into a "model" flouring mill, by George Smith of Hillsdale, Michigan. Later, it was sold to Robert Sanderson, Sr., who built an addition to the mill, installing a generator, which gave power to the community of Orland. Lloyd W. Jacob purchased the mill from Wm. T. Seidel in the year 1916, and after operating it for a few years, sold out to the Northern Indiana Public Service Company. The mill was razed

and some of the timbers were used in Weichts' Undertaking Establishment in Angola.

In Salem Township the first settler, David Wisel, was eager to build his home, and needed a saw mill which he built and kept very busy, sawing lumber for the building of the early settlers' cabins. Earlier, a mill was built at Butler Corners on the southeast corner, near where the present barn now (1954) stands. It was a sorghum and cider mill.

Two miles east of Salem Center there is known the "Dutch Mill Corner," in section 13. This field was to be used as a mill site: Bowman and Wagoner were to build a steam mill. Mr. Wagoner was of Dutch descent, and having inherited the accent and mannerisms of his people, it seemed natural to call it "The Dutch Mill." The land was purchased in 1853, and first spoken of as the "Mill Field" as this was to be used as a mill site. These two men were to build on this land a steam saw mill, and run it.

Early in 1900 a tile mill was built in this field, and in 1907 Samuel Stover sold to Chester Klink the tile mill and saw mill. In 1917 Mr. Klink sold all the property to Edward Knoll and Edward Meek, except the tile kiln which he reserved, and moved to Steubenville, Indiana, where it was discontinued. These men sold the property to Emaline Stover, with right to operate the saw mill until July 15, 1917, at which time they were to remove the mill. The saw mill had brought much activity to the Corners. It was run by steam power and 4,000 feet of lumber were sawed per day. This mill furnished the ties for the Wabash Railroad when it was built across the southern border of the township, in the early nineties. John Hughes, son of David, was employed at the mill for several years.

About the year 1844 there was an old mill at Hollisters (N.E.) Corners which was run by a water wheel. On Turkey Creek, the largest stream in Salem Township, once stood a saw mill owned by Wm. Douglas. Upstream from the bridge was a cider mill and tannery, as well as a cobbler's shop. Levi Shaffer bought the saw mill in 1901, when he moved it to Helmer, where the railroad had gone through. Farther south, near the county line, was the Chisson school and County Line church. Soon a shop and mill were built, where they sawed lumber and pickets for fencing. Also, a cider mill was erected to make cider and apple jelly.

The first mill in Scott Township was a water



powered mill, established on Pigeon Creek, and put into operation about 1845. After 1853 it was known as the Cline Mill. It was operated by John Kissinger, and his family lived in the upper part of the building. At this mill much of the lumber for the homes of the early settler was furnished. It did a thriving business until 1870, when the steam powered mills came into existence. About the year of 1870, a steam powered mill was put into operation, one mile east of Scott Center. This mill was owned by Wm. Pifer, and was discontinued in 1900. In 1886 another steam mill was established by Wm. Ellis, and did a good business for many years. About the year 1884, James Foreman operated a tile mill, and for many years was engaged in making a much needed drain tile to carry away the water which was so plentiful over much of the land of Scott Township. It was located at what was known as Pigeonville. About 1885 Delpert and Jerry Dygert were making much needed tile and brick in the N.E. section.

The very first business in Hudson was a saw mill, erected in 1855 by Joseph and John Miller. The big "muley" saw in this mill was said to "go up one day and come down the next." John Ritter owned this mill. The Roller Mill was located just north of where the Wabash railroad runs. In the summer of 1866 Alexander Fullerton came there from Fostoria, Ohio, and brought with him the entire machinery for the grist mill, including engines, boilers, and burners, etc. It became known as the Hudson Roller Mills, and was owned and operated by Fullerton and his son-in-law, Sam Fergusson. The mill, operated by steam power, was started in December, 1866. The interests changed at various times, but, after 1884, it remained as the firm of Fullerton and Fergusson. In 1884 it was made into a first class flour mill, capable of turning out 60 barrels a day. A corn sheller was added with a capacity of 1,000 bushels a day. It could not be excelled, in quality of work, by any mill in northern Indiana. In 1896, John W. Miller operated a planing mill, feed mill, and blacksmith shop, in the northwest part of town.

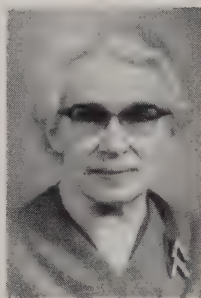
In 1859 John Fee purchased from Sydney Gambia, and built on the site of the old saw mill, a flouring mill. Andrew Sewell was proprietor of the Hamilton Flour Mill, and John Sewell was resident owner of a grist mill one and one-half miles from the village. Sweet and Kimball were listed as having a steam saw mill. In 1855, a steam saw mill was built by Mahood and Sons. The mill

burned, but was rebuilt and enlarged, using the old engine and boiler. In 1871 Mr. Davis bought an interest, and has since operated the mill with his son Frank, manufacturing dimension lumber, shingles, and lath. The mill was of twenty horse power, with a capacity of 3,000 feet of lumber per day. Hiram Sweet located in Hudson in 1873, and built a steam saw mill of twenty-five horse power, with which he carried on his business of manufacturing lumber, cider, and jelly.

Orrin Preston travelled to a mill at Montville, from Jamestown Township, to have his grist ground. Upon his arrival the miller said he could not do it, since another man had come fifty miles, and must have his grist ground first. Mr. Preston then went seven miles farther to Constantine, where with much persuasion, the miller agreed to grind it. Five days from the time he left home he returned, exhausted from the long slow trip. John Knott of this same township, built a saw mill on the outlet of Lake George, and later the same year, 1836, he built a grist mill.

In York Township a grist mill was built in 1844 on Fish Creek by Andrew Ferrier. This mill was built of hewn logs; the bolt, for a period of time, being turned by hand. The elevator was a tin pail, and all the appliances were cheaply and rudely made. It was long known as the "Pepper Mill," and it was facetiously said that "it cracked two grains of corn into three pieces." In 1845, Clark Powers built a saw mill on this same Fish Creek, and in 1846 George Peters built a saw mill operated by steam. Both of these mills burned at an early date.

In Scott Township the first mill, and the only and before 1870, was erected on Pigeon Creek. It was used until 1870.



## Cemeteries of Steuben County

*By Florence E. Heffley*

"Here may thy bent vessel safely ryde,  
This is the porte of rest from troublous toyle,  
The world's sweete Inn from paine and wearysome  
turmoyle."

—Shelley's Fairie Queene.

Within this chapter you will find, as nearly as could be located, the named cemeteries of Steuben County. It has been difficult to secure as much information as desired concerning some plats because very little record, if any, has been kept. If interesting incidents are omitted it is because they were not available and we are sorry. In some cases the early ground selected was in an exceedingly wild condition, covered with thick growth of underbrush and some of it was even swampy, yet utilized for burial purposes. In time these "first acres" became populous with dead and sleeping inhabitants.

Through the years in sparsely settled communities the burial grounds were mainly small plats set aside on family ground at the time of the first death. Here other members of the family were interred and often space was given for dear and near friends. Some of these plats grew to be large, public cemeteries for which much could be said as to their beauty and elegance of design, and would be equally deserving of mention were space to permit.

"Here scattered oft, the loveliest of the year,  
By hands unseen are showers of violets found,  
The red breast loves to build and warble here,  
And little footsteps lightly print the ground."

—Thomas Gray.

### The Indians

The Indians, the first inhabitants, were roaming over the hills and dales of what is known as Steuben County long before our pioneer fathers came to settle and build their homes. They were a race contented and satisfied to live forever without change. However, in 1838, the regular emigration of Indians took place forcing these children of the forests to leave their homes and environment to which they were especially adapted. They had to leave also their sacred burial grounds, scattered among the hills and lake sides, to which many a revered warrior had gone as his "happy hunting ground."

In Otsego Township, on the Dunham farm, later owned by Robert Humphreys, was the Indian village and burial ground of the Potawatomi Tribes. On the southeast corner of Jackson Township lies Hogback Hill and Lake. The story was that Mad Anthony Wayne used this seventy-five foot hill as a Look-Out when he fought the Indians in this region. At the base was found one of their Cemeteries.

According to Indian customs among the Potawatomi Nations where one member of the tribe killed another, the murderer was killed in the same manner by the nearest kin of the murdered brave. The murderess in this case was the daughter of old Baw Beese, chief of the tribe, a firm believer in justice for all. A brother of the deceased soon arrived and the squaw was led forth. As she stood before him she bared her breast for the fatal blow. Just then John Barnard and wife were returning home and one of the Indians stopped them and said, "a squaw much sick." He was commanded to help lift the woman into the wagon. When they drove a little distance there was to be seen the dead husband, too. Finally, after the squaw had been removed, the Indians took the gentleman by the shoulders and marched him back to his wagon and said, "smokaman marchee quick." Nothing was done about interring the bodies while the white settlers were in sight, but in a few days Dr. B. F. Sheldon resurrected the bodies and used them for dissecting purposes.

The Indians' religious ceremonies meant as much to them as did the beliefs of the Puritans mean to them. However, the mode of life seemed strangely peculiar and different compared with the infiltrated religious ideas of the pioneer. Thus it was that the emigration of the Indians separated two great clans of very different thought and custom. The Indian became the displaced tribe to begin anew in untried fields while the pioneer advanced to new heights.

### MILLGROVE TOWNSHIP

Named Cemeteries: Carleton; Green Lawn Society; Memorial Grove.

#### Carleton Cemetery

The Carleton Cemetery, land for which was donated from the Carleton farm, is on the old trail of the Vistula Pike as it wound around swamps and over rivers and creeks which the early caravans followed. This included Joseph Smith and Brigham Young when they passed through Steuben County on their way to the head waters of Lake Michigan. To reach this plat of ground it is necessary to cross a field and follow the old wagon road, easily discernible. Within the gate, up on the hill you find this old cemetery in bad repair, in sad condition from misuse, knocked down, broken monuments and markers often buried beneath the heavy growth of myrtle. It is almost necessary



to get down, cut and pull away the sod which has covered the slabs. The reward to be had is in finding a marker for some fine character, whom you have revered, known or read about. Here can be found, if you know where to look, the grave of the loyal Doctor Peter C. Carleton, one of the very early physicians who walked, went by horse-back, or rode in any fashion to administer professional aid and to sit by the sick of his community. He died in 1856 and was buried near where he lived and practiced so long. Also to be found was the marker of Allen C. Patch, died 1866, the son of Elder Jacob Patch, a well known minister who often passed through this community and "Cheered and revived" the settlers.

Though the marker was not to be found, history tells that the first death of an adult in the Vermont Settlement was that of Polly Blanchard, 1835, wife of Abel Blanchard who was one of the very early settlers. She was buried in this little Cemetery, new at that time.

#### **Green Lawn Cemetery**

East of Orland on the Vistula Pike, State Road #120, is to be seen the well kept Green Lawn Cemetery.

This Society was started in 1881 when land was purchased from Miles Kimball, and individual lots were sold. In 1882 the Green Lawn Society was organized, and later perpetual care was established.

Here are to be found some very nice monuments among the graves of many soldiers and well known citizens from the surrounding country. One of the older graves is that of Christian Schneider, 1818-1906, who came from Baden, Baden, Germany, in 1846. He was the postmaster at Orland for thirty-seven years, raised and lowered the flag each day, and rang the village bell three times daily. Then there is the memorial monument to the William Joyce family. Here are the markers for his son and daughters including Mary McKinlay, 1824-1897, and her husband, James McKinlay, 1822-1873, who is also listed in the Memorial Grove Cemetery, where is found the original monument of William Joyce, M. D.

Two recent graves, 1954, are those of William Case of Orland, and Frank Rowley of Angola. The records of Green Lawn Cemetery Society have been wonderfully kept through the years, and to this date. To Clinton D. Ernsberger of Orland is due much of the credit for the accurately and ex-

tensively kept records and data, as well as for his knowledge of the history of the personnel. However, Mr. Ernsberger made this remark, "The march of time and the ruthless hand of ignorance have destroyed the many memorials of our early pioneers, so it is hard to maintain sequence up to now."

#### **Memorial Grove Cemetery**

In Millgrove Township there are to be found two very old cemeteries with the earliest graves in the County; The Carleton is southeast of the town and Memorial Grove is on North Wayne Street in Orland. In the latter there can be seen the markers for many of the first citizens of the Vermont Settlement: Isabella Anderson, 1838, wife of John; Josiah Chapin, 1779-1864, and his son, Colonel Alexander Augustus Chapin, 1805-1849, the first postmaster of the village; James Clark, 1772-1850; markers for Captain Samuel Barry, called the "extraordinary man," and his wife, Sarah Barry, 1784 -1854, but the marker for the former has been removed. On the monument of William Joyce, M. D., 1787 -1851, who died at the age of 64 years, is the inscription, "member of the Aesculapian Society of New York, 1816;" Benjamin J. Jackson, December 3, 1850, and his wife, Elizabeth Jackson, who died the following day. You will also find the marker of S. U. Clark, died 1878, who had built the first hotel; John Stocker, died 1849, and Nelson Newton, who had constructed the first pumps for the settlement. The first two deaths of children were those of the Nelson Newtons who died in 1835 a few days apart, from the dread disease, scarlet fever. Mrs. Newton died in 1842 at the age of 31 years. Eliza Eaton Kimball, wife of Augustus, who was the first teacher and bride of the township in 1836, was also buried here in 1873. Timothy Kimball, who built the first mill in 1836, passed away in 1851 at the age of 70 years. The grave of Dr. Thomas B. Sloss, 1818-1899, one of the faithful physicians through the years, is to be found in this cemetery among his many patrons and friends.

#### **JAMESTOWN TOWNSHIP**

##### **Jamestown Cemetery**

As you leave Millgrove Township and follow State Highway #120 through beautiful country, you come to the Jamestown Cemetery, which is an ornament to the country side. This is another

old cemetery, as is shown by the early dates found on the markers. The original "First Acre," the size of many early burial grounds, was to the west, and here are the graves of the pioneers who died in the first years of the Jamestown settlement.

The first person to be buried there was William Simmons, on January 15, 1841, and Diana Harding, the wife of George, was buried the same day. Later her body was removed to the present Harding plat which lies in a newer section to the east. Mrs. Richfield attended these services, and in ten days she was stricken and died, January 28, 1841. The next grave was that of John Howe, January 3, 1842. Some of the old names and dates to be found are: Renselaer Wallace, 1855, and his wife Aurette Wallace, 1861; Rodney Parrish, 1794-1855; John Best, 1852; John Miller, 1845; Asa Mallory, 1824-1903, who had gone to the "gold fields" in 1850, and his wife Sytheria Wright Mallory, 1841-1929, grandparents of Carl McClue, who lives on the home place across the road.

In 1837 David Mallory, a veteran of the War of 1812, brought his family from Rutland, Vermont, and settled in Jamestown Township. When the son Elias became of age, he entered eighty acres of school land which joined the cemetery on the west. He was greatly interested in the cemetery project and much credit is due him for the beauty of the place today. He, at an early date, had planted the trees and, while active, at his own expense superintended the care of the grounds. As more land was needed, he and George Harding promoted the purchase of three more acres to the east. Here may be seen a large plat of many Harding graves. George Harding, before his death, had ordered erected a fine monument for which he paid one thousand dollars. On three sides are listed and dates given for his three wives, the first of whom was Diana removed from the early grave of 1841; on the fourth side is found his own, 1812-1894. On each of the four sides is also an inscription of history: "George Harding, British born"; "Emigrated in 1832, entered land 1835"; "This cemetery (east section) was purchased and platted in 1881 by George Harding and Elias Mallory"; "No dwelling in this Township at the time."

A little farther north are to be found the monument and graves of Elias Mallory, 1822-1903, and wife Rosilia Mallory, 1870, and other members of the family. In the late nineteen forties two more acres of land were purchased from the Ralph Newnam farm on the west, which was the original Elias

Mallory farm. This was presented to the Jamestown Cemetery Association by Ruth and Arnold Van Kepple, and Owen Green of Grand Rapids, Michigan, in memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Green, who were buried in this beautiful cemetery along with their Mallory ancestors. To date this new west section contains but one grave. On the Sunday nearest to the 30th of May the Jamestown Association holds an annual cemetery service with an outstanding speaker, when many an interested person comes from afar.

#### FREMONT TOWNSHIP

Named Cemeteries: Lake Side; Old Cemetery; Ray-Covenanter.

As you travel farther east, soon after crossing the U. S. Highway #27 you come to the Township as well as the Town of Fremont, named in honor of the famous pathfinder, John C. Fremont. Here are to be found three cemeteries, one of which, The Old Cemetery, was the early burial ground of the first citizens around Willow Prairie, changed to Brockville in 1837, and renamed Fremont in 1851.

#### Lake Side Cemetery

Lake Side, a newer Cemetery, is located south of the town of Fremont. It was established in 1879 on land originally from the Adair Stroh farm. From lack of care it became like all neglected plats, and Dr. and Mrs. Ben F. Wolfe became interested in the project of reclaiming and restoring to beauty the entire cemetery, which has proved a work most worthwhile. They were generous with their time, thought, and money, and with the assistance of the community this is one of the most attractive Cemeteries in the County. As you drive the angling road, a short distance from the cemetery, and look back along the well planned drive, you see a most inviting vista. Much thought and pride has been taken, besides the work of maintaining the grounds in the present condition.

#### The Old Cemetery

In 1840 occurred the first burial in the Old Cemetery, that of Jacob Froat, who had taken his own life. Over his grave was erected the first monument, a slab marker of the early type, which fell over and became broken. It is told that in 1870 the Ft. Wayne, Jackson, and Saginaw railroad was constructed across the township and, as it passed near or over the grave, the remains were left un-



moved. Other early marked graves are Samuel Tillotson, 1847; Eunice Grant, wife of John, 1848; Felecia B. Russell, 1850, wife of Silas; Henry Stewart, 1852; Phebeann Chase, 1846, and William Chase, 1862. Among Civil War Veterans there can be found Corp. Riley Young, Co. B., 100 Ind. Inf., and William Nevels, Co. E., Mich. Cav.

Other early graves were from the family of a prominent Clear Lake Township farmer, L. I. C. Young. His daughter Susan was later married to Milton Brown and they located on the farm of R. H. Goddard about 1848. They and their two youngest children died early in life and were buried in this first cemetery in Fremont, the "first acre," which was donated by Demary Tillotson.

### **The Ray Cemetery**

The Ray Covenanter Memorial Cemetery is found along the angling road south of the town of Ray. This is a noticeable plat amid many beautiful pine trees which forward looking patrons planted when the "first acre" became extended. As you pass this restful looking place, you can easily read names on the monuments: McNaughton; Lewis; Mitchell; Lyons; Handy; Gowthrop; Judson; Fink; Duguid; Chestnut; and many others representing the early families of this community. The flags float over many graves of United States Soldiers.

This cemetery was established on the John Duguid and McNaughton farm, which was entered directly from the government. The first three families were the John Duguids, James Lewis, and Alexander and Marie McNaughton, pioneers of 1835, who came to settle in Fremont Township near what is known today as the town of Ray. They first built their homes, then their little church, in the yard of which was the first grave. This established their cemetery and what is known today as a beautiful "city of the dead."

In 1938 another acre of ground was obtained, extending the cemetery to about three acres. It is kept partially by perpetual care, gifts, and some township support. Mr. E. B. McNaughton of Ray is a great grandson of the original John Duguids and Alexander McNaughtons, the early pioneers.

### **CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP**

Named Cemeteries: Burying Ground Lake; Clear Lake; Lutheran; Teeters.

If you are not familiar with the townships, look on the map and find in the upper right hand

corner the smallest of the twelve that comprise the County of Steuben.

### **Burying Ground Lake Cemetery**

The Public Square in Bowensburg, dedicated as a town November 7, 1836, was situated on land owned by John Russell, the first permanent settler of Clear Lake Township. This, along with other vanished towns, had a burial ground where can be seen the early grave of Erastus Brown, 1849, who was interred within sight of the Public Square, which was patterned after the Public Square of Angola. Though the town vanished and the grave has been opened by vandals, the monument still stands to mark the spot. In the brief time that Mr. Brown spent in the community, he proved many times to be an Angel of Mercy. At one time during a smallpox epidemic an entire family was stricken with the dread disease and buried in this location. It was Erastus Brown who braved the illness and went into the home and cared for the sick until they were gone. It has been told through the years that he did many acts of kindness when the early settlers were in need, and his monument has much significance. Among the few graves, there can be found that of John Russell, the first settler, and a set of graves for a family of colored people. Since then there have been a number of other burials and as a landmark the little cemetery deserves to be maintained to preserve the history of the good deeds that Erastus Brown did for his early community.

On some early maps the nearby lake was shown as Burying Ground Lake, taking its name from the burial place of Erastus Brown. In recent years the name has been changed to Lake Ann.

In about 1880, near the old Lakeside Hotel, now Hazenhurst, Clear Lake, Indiana, there was a dedication service for erecting a monument in memory of the brave Indian, Chief Red Jacket. While a lad, Dr. O. I. Laird, of near Ray, Indiana, attended the ceremony and recalled the band music and the boat races, which were the added attractions. Later the monument was removed.

### **Clear Lake Cemetery**

On the road angling from Fremont along the north side of Clear Lake you come to a Baptist Church with a small cemetery across the road. On February 19, 1873, the Reverend William N. Welker, an early minister of the Baptist faith, deeded this land to the Trustees of Clear Lake Baptist

Church, organized in 1864, for a cemetery in connection with the church organization. On this ground stands a monument in memory of this faithful worker, though his body was interred in California.

As in most early cemeteries, there are the lost graves. Here an effort is being made to place markers on the known graves, that the location may be permanently kept. There are two Civil War Soldiers: Everett Nichols and Josiah Kellogg. Among older graves there are Robert Laird, 1802-1891, and his wife, Elizabeth Laird, 1804-1886, who were the grandparents of Dr. O. I. Laird of near Ray.

After practicing fifty years in Charlotte, Michigan, Dr. Laird retired and returned with Mrs. Laird to his childhood community to live on the banks of Long Lake. Much credit is due these interested people for the present nice condition of this little cemetery, as they have made the improvements a project. Besides the grounds being kept up very well, they are replacing markers to preserve the identity of graves. The support comes from the Baptist Church organization and partial upkeep from the township. Within a few years Dr. and Mrs. Laird gave land near the church, upon which has been built a comfortable parsonage ready for the pastors' families as they live in the parish.

#### Teeters Cemetery

In about 1840 David Benton Teeters and his brother Elisha gave enough land to be platted into eighty lots, to be called the Teeters Cemetery. In later years two additions were made, one at either end. Wilbur McMurray of near Ray is a great-grandson of Mr. David Teeters. In 1902 the cemetery was incorporated by Lewis Smith and others, and a few lots were endowed for perpetual care.

As had been the case in some other locations, the first service was for the burial of a woman who died as a covered wagon was in transit. It was then that the Teeters Cemetery was really established. Christopher Oberst, 1841-1919, buried here, had enlisted in the Civil War in 1861, Co. A., 44th Inf., and participated in five engagements. He was wounded in 1863 and was mustered out in 1864. Keith Oberst of Ray, is a grandson of Mr. Oberst. Among the World War I Veterans the flags fly over the graves of Carl and Clair Throop

and Earl Nedele. Interments for Mr. and Mrs. George Ford occurred in 1938 and 1933. They were the parents of Mrs. E. B. McNaughton of Ray.

#### Clear Lake Lutheran Church Cemetery

The Clear Lake Lutheran Church is especially active during the summer months. In recent years, in connection with it there has been established a small burial ground within the yard of the Church property.

#### JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Named Cemeteries: Flint; Jackson Prairie Grave Yard Society; Lake Gage.

#### Flint

Flint, the second settlement, and the only village in the township, was located by Pigeon River where the first mill was built. Here the pioneers experienced similar disappointments, and one of the "firsts" was the beginning of a burial ground with graves as early as 1834. The early records of this cemetery were burned, but it is known that perpetual care was established as early as 1900, and it has been and is today a beautifully kept Memorial Plat.

The early settler graves are to be found in the center, with two additions purchased as needed, the Blue, to the north, and in recent years, the Golden, to the southwest. Some of the oldest names and dates to be found are: Robert Griffin, 1842; Emma Dowed, 1850, wife of J. Dowed; Sophrona Cleaveland, 1852, wife of A. M. Cleaveland; Jessie, 1857, daughter of A. G. Parsell. Also to be found are a number of graves for Civil War Soldiers: Eleazar Luton, born in France in 1836, enlisted in the War in 1863, returned and lived near Flint until his death in 1909. George D., 1816-1866, son of David Cleaveland, a one time owner of an early mill on the Pigeon River, enlisted in 1861 and served three and one-half years, seventeen months of which were spent in rebel prisons. Newell Wilson, 1864, Elgy Vanhusan, 1866, and John Russell Wood, 1875.

During the second World War, Stanley Golden Parsell, 1923-1944, son of Abijah and Eula Golden Parsell of Elkhart, Indiana, was brought back for interment in the Golden addition of the cemetery. The cause of the tragedy was the failure of his parachute to open as he left the plane.

The grave of a child was noticed, Ludellie Blue, 1870, who was the daughter of the esteemed phy-



sician, Dr. John D. Blue, and Mary H. Cleaveland Blue, from whom the north addition was purchased. On the marker is found this epitaph: "Beneath this little mound is laid our darling to rest. She has gone to join the angel band and be forever blest."

An interesting plat along the third drive is in memory of the Basil Wyrick family. A request by his mother was that her monument be a large boulder of native Steuben County stone, to be taken from the farm northeast of Flint, owned by her father, Levi Doudt. There she had spent her happy childhood. On this stone that was erected is a bronze plate with the following inscription:

This is in memory of Martha Ann Doudt Wyrick,  
1853-1899.

"Your life conformed to God's majestic scheme,  
And strove each day still better fruit to bear;  
For progress prospers not on sloth serene,  
But thrives alone on constant work and care."

—Basil.

There are markers for members of the family along the side of the monument, and at the base is an urn containing the ashes of the immediate members of the Basil Wyrick family of Chicago, Illinois.

On the farm of Dr. Robinson, northwest of Flint, there is a child's grave with head and foot markers. It is to be found under a large oak tree just outside of the fence at the corner one mile west and one and one-half miles north of what is called Shanks Corners. This was the son of Old "Doc Rob," as the father was familiarly known. After more than one-hundred and six years the markers are in good condition and the inscription is readily discernible: "Fonlue, son of Albert and Lovina Robinson, age 1 yr., 3 mos., 22 das." May the vandals keep their hands off of this precious historical spot!

### **Jackson Prairie Grave Yard Society**

On the western side of the County is Jackson Prairie Cemetery, in Jackson Township where the first settlers of Steuben County came and built their homes. These brave pioneers had been most courageous with faith and hope, but within a short time there was need for a burial ground. Gideon Langdon, the first permanent settler, 1831, had staked out land east of State Road #327 on the Lake Gage road. In this new home in the spring of 1832, Mrs. Langdon died, and hers was the first

death. An acre of ground was then selected from the southwest corner of a forty acre plat that Mr. Langdon had entered. Later, in 1847, the thirty-nine acres remaining were sold to Jonas Twitchell at twenty dollars an acre. With the grave of Mrs. Langdon the Jackson Prairie Cemetery was begun. While there is no marker to indicate the location, it is known to be in this cemetery. The "first acre" is filled with early graves, some with markers and too many without. There are two irregular slate slabs, marking graves side by side, but with no inscription.

Many graves of early settlers are found throughout the cemetery in newer sections. There is the monument of John Stayner, 1870, and his wife Sarah Stayner, 1873, also a rather late marker for the brother Jacob, and for Veterans of the War of 1812, and pioneers of 1831. A few early dates are for: Amos, son of Jacob and Susan Greeno, 1836; Edward Smith, 1836; Philinda Sherwin, wife of Bildad Sherwin, 1837; Juliann, 1838, and Joseph Hardy, 1847. Also David Sams, 1801-1874, and his wife Elizabeth Baker Sams, 1801-1888, pioneers of 1835, great-grandparents of Harry Beers of Orland. Samuel Olcott, 1861, and wife Nancy Olcott, 1888, pioneers of 1836; Daniel Roberts, 1844, and wife Mary Roberts, 1857; Minerva Roberts, aged 22 years, died 1855; Nathan Roberts, age 35, 1858.

In 1850, this cemetery was organized as the Jackson Prairie Grave Yard Society and is active today with Harry Beers in charge. In 1926 a new addition was purchased from William Lincoln and Marion Robert Lincoln, whose farm joined on the north, now the Lincoln Booth farm.

The flags wave over the graves of the Veterans in this well kept cemetery, located on State Road #327. It lies as a pretty prairie amid the trees planted by early settlers.

### **Lake Gage Cemetery**

North and a little east is found the beautiful Lake Gage which lies in both Millgrove and Jackson Townships. To the southeast lies an early burial ground called the Lake Gage Cemetery, the land for which came from the Charles Bachelor estate. The oldest monument is dated in the eighteen hundred and forties. However there were two other graves on the Justus Butler farm (now owned by J. W. Butler), which were marked with small slate head and foot slabs. Mr. Butler plowed around them for years. Finally, about sixty years ago, the graves were dug up and the remains were

removed to the Lake Gage Cemetery, where Mr. Justus Butler, 1802-1853, was also buried.

The Association was organized in 1886. About 1950 Mr. and Mrs. Stillman Johnson left a gift of money to the Cemetery, and in order to accept the gift, the Association was incorporated in 1953.

#### PLEASANT TOWNSHIP

Named Cemeteries: Circle Hill; Crocket; Crain; Lake Side, (Called The Old Cemetery); Sowle Settlement; Kope.

##### Circle Hill Cemetery

As you move eastward you come into Pleasant Township, the center of which is our County Seat, Angola. On the east side of the city is to be found the Circle Hill Cemetery, which was established in 1874 by the citizens of Angola and the Odd Fellows Lodge. It is on land that had been formerly the Hendry Addition. A few years later the Lodge took over the entire management and created perpetual care. The average number of burials is about 60 per year.

After this cemetery was established, a number of graves were made by removals from earlier cemeteries in the county. Alanson Abbey, 1795-1879, a soldier of the War of 1812, and his wife, Lucy Daggett Abbey, 1795-1840, were moved from the Clark Cemetery near Pleasant Lake to the John B. Parsell plat in this cemetery. Possibly Judge Thomas Gale, one of the founders of Angola, and no doubt many others, were removed from the Old Cemetery.

There are many Civil War Soldiers: William Hanselman, Co. A. 29th Ind Vol. Inf.; Christopher Hart, 1810-1896, Co. B 78th Ohio Vol. Inf.; Elias Rost, 1838-1909, 1st Lieut. Co. A 44th Ind. Vol. Inf., are a few names. On the south side there is a large boulder monument of native granite brought from southwest of Helmer, Steuben Co. This is dedicated to the Veterans by The American Legion Post, number thirty-one. There are to be found sixteen graves on this plat, one a Spanish American, twelve for World War I, and two for World War II, and an unknown Soldier. H. Lyle Shank, a Spanish American War Vet, was interred in this cemetery, 1953.

The grave for the oldest resident is for Willard DeWitt, 1776-1881, of Scott Township, who lived to be over 104 years of age. During the War of 1812 he served in Captain Ichabod Bartlett's Co. of New York Militia. During the last nine years of

his life he received a government pension of eight dollars a month.

Another grave that is of interest in a northern cemetery is that of Dan Webster. Here is found a Great Dane dog as a marker, standing alert as if watching to protect his master. The inscription is: "An honest man, a true and loyal friend. Born a slave in Carroll County, Tenn. Died in Angola Je. 10. 1898—60 years of age." He had been a helper in the home of William Croxton for twenty-five years.

As you enter the cemetery from the north you notice an early plat in the form of a large circle, centered with a fine monument from which the graves radiate to the circumference. Here are the markers of William Ferrier, 1823-1907, and wife Olive M. Thompson Ferrier, 1831-1910. Also some members of his family, including two daughters and their husbands: Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Waller (Amanda) and Judge and Mrs. Stephen A. Powers (Dora).

There are graves of children, too, that cause one to stop and wonder. There is a marker with a small lamb on the top, but only the inscription: "Jean Conigan, 1923." Another marker of many years earlier is: Millie, da. of S. and E. Bright, d. 1876. "Tread softly near her, my dear ones! Let her sleep, I would not have my darling wake to weep."

As you pass farther on you will see many familiar names from the time of the early physician, Dr. George W. McConnell, 1816-1894, to Judge Joseph Abel Woodhull, 1914, and Judge Clyde Carlin, 1948. There have been interred many prominent citizens, the men and women who carried the brunt and responsibility of founding, organizing, and aiding the progress of the small town which was destined to be the city that Angola has become. They all deserve to be named and honored. Drive through this interesting cemetery and recall the good rendered by these former loyal citizens.

##### Crain Cemetery and The Crocket

There are two small cemeteries in Pleasant Township west of Angola. One, the Crain, lies south and a little east just off the Golden lake road, being a neighborhood burial ground near the early settler, A. D. Crain, home where Chester and Hiram Crain, once prominent farmers, spent their youth. Today the location would be between the Clarence Barker and Byron Griffin farms, east of the Ward Coleman farm. The other cemetery, the



Crocket, lies a little west and north of the Post House on U. S. #20, on the Clark Nichols farm.

### **Sowle Settlement and Kope Cemetery**

Driving north on U. S. Highway #27 about a mile and one-half you will see a small burial ground called the Sowle Settlement Cemetery. Here are found dates as early as: Alva Sowle, 1841; Lydia Sowle, 1848; Walter Ingersoll, 1846. There are also a number of Civil War Veterans: Joseph Sowle, 1862, son of Francis and Angelica Sowle; Samuel Alleman, 1875; W. A. Loshier, Co. G. 107 Pa. Inf.; Endress Wiggin, 1913, Co. C. 12th Ind. Cav.

This cemetery is near the farm of the pioneers, Francis and Angelica Vrooman Sowle, the latter from Holland. They were pioneers of 1836 in the Sowle Settlement from which this cemetery takes its name. Francis was a "Forty-niner," going from Angola in a caravan, taking four months to cross the plains. He remained fifteen months and returned to Angola where he lived to be 93 years of age. He was buried in The Lake Side Cemetery.

Another small plat that lies three and one-half miles northeast of Angola is the Kope Cemetery. This is an older burial ground with about fifty or sixty graves, a few of which are of soldiers.

### **Lake Side or "Old Cemetery"**

As you come into Angola from the north there is the Lake Side, or, as more familiarly known, the "Old Cemetery" that lies between the Brick and Tile and the Weatherhead factories. It was so named because the plat was situated by a lake which existed until a time when the town became drained of its marshes. Also at that time the main street of the village, called Northwest Street, was open to the only burial ground and within walking distance, so very necessary at that time. This was the burial place of the very early settlers of the then new and small community. They all had much to do with the founding as well as the progress of early Angola. Quoting from a visitor, it was expressed this way, "It was these men who lie here, that built Angola and even grubbed out the trees to make her streets." This plat was deeded to the Board of the County Commissioners of Steuben County in 1841 by Cornelius Gilmore, and was the first established cemetery for the public in this vicinity. Prior to this time, private burial places, which often eventually become public plats, were common on the farm properties.

After Lake Side Cemetery was established, several of the prominent families staked out lots in more or less symmetrical rows, which are still discernible. In this old burial place the first graves dated back to 1840, and there were many others during the next two decades: Eliza McConnell, 1840; daughter of Dr. James and Eliza McConnell; Dr. James McConnell, first physician and postmaster, 1810-1844; Mary Carey, wife of John Carey, 1844; John Gale, 1846; Reverend John Stealy, the first minister or Elder of the community, 1848; John Knott, 1849; Charles Van Wormer, 1851; William Patterson, 1858; Judge Thomas Gale, one of the founders of Angola, born January 2, 1794, and died in 1865. It is thought that he was buried in this cemetery. His wife, Martha Carey Gale, died in 1881, and it may be that both burials were made in Circle Hill; Freeborn Patterson, 1825-1893, and many others up to this date of December 1954, when the grave of Oliver Rose was still fresh with sprays of flowers.

The graves of two people, Mary and Davy Harp, who had lived in the County Home from its inception, are found with a rather modern marker made possible through the efforts of Irvin J. Metzgar; "Harp," Davy, 1839-1920; Mary, called "Little Mary," 1840-1945. The following inscription: "Innocents." "First guests of Steuben County Home, founded 1863, Lon Cobb, Supt." Among the several Civil War Soldiers, two were Lieut. William M. Carr, and Henry Haskins.

The first effort for the upkeep of the grounds was by "get together" or "Bees," as they were called, to clean and improve the lots and appearances in general. Prominent in this work was Heman Carpenter, Orville Carver, Ben Brown, William Brown, and many others. When voluntary contributions were received for the maintenance fund, Royal Carpenter acted as treasurer for many years, and Alma Case, who was employed in the H. B. Weicht casket factory, served as secretary. One hundred and thirty-eight names were listed as "dollar a year" supporters of the fund, on the treasurer's record from 1911 to 1917. Will and Fred Patterson, former residents and department store merchants, donated the first lawn mower to be used for the improvements.

### **SCOTT TOWNSHIP**

Named Cemeteries: Dygert; Holdridge; Jones; Jordan; South Scott; Wickwire.

This small Township has six cemeteries, which

probably were for family burials and extended to the neighborhood. There is a similarity among these small plats, so Dygert, Holdridge, and Wickwire are not listed separately.

#### **Jones Cemetery**

This is a small plat but here can be found an interesting grave; that of Dr. John H. Moore, 1820-1891, the first physician in the community. He was loved by all who knew him, and was known to respond and administer to those who called him regardless of remuneration.

#### **Jordan Cemetery**

The Jordan Cemetery lies northeast of Angola along the angling road to Metz, where an acre of ground was purchased in the early eighteen-forties from Lonnie and Cornelius Van Horn, after whom it was first named. In about 1915, because the graves were predominately marked Jordan, the cemetery was renamed The Jordan.

In 1948, more space was required, and Mr. Maurice McClew presented the Association with an acre of adjoining ground.

There are about fifteen graves for Civil War Veterans, among which are the names of Showalter, Albert and James Ewing, of the 44th Ind. Regiment. They marched to the sea with General William Tecumseh Sherman. Albert was promoted to Lieutenant on the Battlefield of Shiloh, while his brother James was killed at the same time. Also Henry Johnson and William Sims of the 100th Ind. Reg. were with the same group.

#### **South Scott Cemetery**

South Scott Cemetery is on the angling road to Metz. There are to be found graves for a number of Civil War Soldiers, one of which is for Nelson Cole who marched to the Sea, with General William Tecumseh Sherman in command. He admired his superior officer so much that he gave his first son the name of Sherman.

The land for the "first acre" came from the farm of Charles Wickwire. Later an addition was taken from the farm belonging to the father of Frank Deller, which became the east plat. In all, the Cemetery consists of three acres.

#### **YORK TOWNSHIP**

Named Cemeteries: Powers and York.

#### **Powers Cemetery**

In 1850 a strip of land a mile wide was taken from York and given to Scott Township, which

placed Dygert, the third cemetery lying in York Township, over in Scott Township.

In the center of the eastern part of the County is York Township where many prominent settlers came to make their homes. Among the first were the Powers brothers, Calvin, Clark, Winn, and Stephen, who arrived in 1837. Mowery, son of William and Betsy Powers, died in 1838, one of the first deaths in this new settlement. From then on there was a Powers Cemetery which is considered one of the old and interesting cemeteries with early markers and dates. Calvin, one of the original brothers, was buried there in 1878 near the place where he began life as a pioneer.

Some other old names and dates to be found are: Griswold Phelps, 1845; Ebenezer Eldridge, 1852; Calvin Powers, 1803-1859. There are the Civil war Soldiers too: Eli Buck, 1862, and Jerem Dillingham, 1867. Later dates are William, 1906, and Amelia Wicoff, 1910.

Through the efforts of the Powers family a Free Church building was erected in 1879 in connection with the cemetery. This church still stands and is used mainly for public gatherings. Today, the fourth generation of Powers families are interested in preserving the traditions started in the early days. In 1937 a large boulder of native Steuben County stone, found in the vicinity of York Township, was placed in this cemetery to commemorate the Powers families settling in this territory. Through the efforts of Stephen A. Powers, who lives at Lake Gage, the stone was properly set.

#### **York Cemetery**

Near the community of York at Hathaway Corners, northeast of Angola, there is to be found the small cemetery called York. This burial ground is on a rise of ground some distance back from the brick church which had been built nearer the permanently established road. Here are found some graves dated as early as 1864 when Sally Soule and her husband Samuel Soule were interred. Darwin Soule, 1867; Soloman, 1815-1897, and Adaline Frost, 1818-1888. Dr. E. A. Taylor, 1849-1903, was a well known physician in this community. He was a gentleman of the old school, always wearing a high silk hat.

#### **SALEM TOWNSHIP**

Named Cemeteries: Block; County Line; Hollister; The Circle; Trinity; Wright.



### Block Cemetery

The lower tier of Townships of the County begins with Salem in the extreme southwest corner. This being an early settlement, there were numerous small burial grounds, some of which developed from family and neighborhood until they have become public Cemeteries.

An early and well known Cemetery is The Block, which is one and one-half miles north of Salem Center. The farm owned by John Russell Wood extended to the Salem road and Jackson Township line. Before selling thirty acres of land to Avery Emerson Jr., he donated a strip of ground near the corner as a plat for public burials, where the first graves were made. Later Mr. Emerson gave a like strip of ground from his farm. This was the northeast corner, even though the road then angled along the east side until Salem Township was established in 1837, and the road was straightened to pass on the west side of the present location. In this early day before a drainage system was established, water was found near the surface which caused much trouble in preparing the graves. In some cases, the grave would fill with water before the time of the service and it was found necessary to place straw in the bottom of the grave to absorb the water.

An early church was built in 1841 facing the west on the site of this Cemetery. In 1860 it was sold and moved to the farm of John Newton Ousterhout. Mr. Ousterhout died in 1901 and was buried in this cemetery. The Block Church yard soon became a public burial ground and though lost, through the lack of permanent markers, the first graves were for children.

The graves of some of the very early settlers of this township are found here: David Wisel, Sr., 1843, and son James, about 1845; Loren Butler, son of Benjamin and Perses Hutchins Butler, 1849, and Fanny Stevens Butler, 1809-1849. Also the Veterans of the Civil War are represented with seventeen graves: namely,—David Gillespie; Samuel Parker; Calvin Woodford; Myron R. Richardson; Frank LaDow; Semour Butler; Frederick Komp; John Grossbeck; J. C. Kimsey; Abraham Chenoworth; Charles Brown; A. J. Sutherland; Adam Shaffstall; Frank Shaffstall; L. N. Bodley; E. D. Gunsallus; Lieut. M. B. Butler. Also there is the grave of a World War one soldier, Eddie Beigh, 1889-1919.

In 1915, for the need of more space, a strip was

added to the east side, purchased from George Emerson, whose farm joined mainly on the north side. This made a plat of about three acres.

### County Line

On the line between Steuben and DeKalb Counties is found one of the Cemeteries with some graves made over one hundred years ago. This is the County Line Cemetery. Jacob Krum donated the first one-half acre to the east from his farm, for public burial purposes, and the one-half acre to the west came from the farm of John Zimmerman.

This is a closed cemetery, although an occasional burial is made.

Names and dates on early graves are found as early as 1850: Barbara Mortorff, wife of Christopher, 1850; David B. Frederick, 1820-1893, and daughter Linda, 1845-1854; Lydia Ann Antony, wife of Peter, 1855; Nancy Trance, 1857; Catharine Fagler, wife of John, 1862; John Kriegbaum, 1863; Jacob Leas, 1821-1887. There are graves of Civil War Soldiers too: Henry Phineas, 1862, died in Nashville, Tenn.; Corp. Ananias Ropp, Co. 51-164 Ohio N-G-1.

### Hollister

A mile east of the village of Salem is the location where the old Hollister school house once stood, and a little to the north is found the burial ground by the same name. Mr. Hollister had given the land from his farm for the immediate community, and, on November 22, 1837, Nancy, the fourteen-year-old daughter of Elder and Mrs. Joseph Lock, died and was buried in the first grave in this cemetery. During the following summer two other children of this family died and were interred side by side.

The grave of the second Revolutionary soldier buried in Steuben County is known to be in this cemetery. Isaac Conklin lived in the first house west of the Hollister Corners, where he died May 12, 1862, and it would seem probable that the interment was made in this nearby cemetery, although the marker had been lost.

Here is found the marker of "John Slick, born in Prussia, 1785-1879." He was known as one of the first settlers and the oldest resident of Salem Township. He and his wife were interred here.

Farther east and a little south of the Ward Sparks home, was a small neighborhood burial ground called the Ransburg Cemetery. There were

very few graves. Later these were removed to the Hollister Cemetery.

### The Circle

The Circle Cemetery lies one mile west of Hudson, and is the largest in Salem Township. It was organized in 1893 by six men, and the following names are found on the dedication plat: John Miller; Hiram Melendy; Henry Shuman; Andrew Ferrer; Martin V. Leas, and Jacob H. Leas. Calvin V. Van Auken of DeKalb County was Surveyor, and John F. Aber was the designer.

After establishing this cemetery of five acres there were soon a number of removals from small plats: Byron A. Brugh, 1872; William Shipe, 1883. The first grave made and stone erected was for Joseph H. Miller, July 18, 1893. There are many Civil War Soldiers represented by the flags waving over the graves. Also buried here are John H. Coleman, Corp. of World War One, 1879-1921, and Private Maurice R. Hovarter, World War Two, 1918-1942, Air Corps, 27th Bombers Group. He was taken prisoner in the Philippines and after surviving the Bataan Death March, died in 1943 in Mukden, Manchuria, in a Japanese Prisoner of War Camp.

The organizers of this cemetery deeded it to their heirs and now it is in the possession of three families: Leas, Sparks, and Fredericks, who are descendants of two original owners, Martin V. Leas and Jacob H. Leas. Heber Leas, a grandson of Martin V. Leas, is in charge.

This is an attractive Cemetery, laid out in Circles, and from that it takes its name, The Circle Cemetery.

### Trinity

Trinity Cemetery lies a half mile east of the Hollister Corners. It is an old burial ground neatly kept. The graves are in discernible rows, with the older ones in the center.

The earliest date found was for Catharine Mort-solf, wife of John, born in 1807, at Malchaen, France, and died in 1845; John McClain, 1852; George Brugh, 1856; and Margaret Meek, wife of Adam, 1859. There are a number of Civil War Soldiers, one of whom was Charles McClain, 1864.

### Wright

In the southwest part of the Township, west and north of Helmer, is to be found the Wright Cemetery. In the early period, about 1838, Jephtha Wright,

1788-1874, settled with his family in this location. His daughter, Mary Jane, wife of Edmund Taylor, died in July, 1841. Thus it was that the Wright Cemetery was started, one and one-fourth miles west of what was then the busy center of Turkey Creek, now a vanished town.

Here is to be found the grave of Ethan Rogers, 1758-1849, a Revolutionary Soldier, who is one of two known to be buried in the County. The other one, Isaac Conklin, lived in the first house west of Hollister Corners, where he died, May 12, 1862. He was buried in Hollister cemetery a little north of these corners, but the marker seems to have been lost.

There are two Veterans of the War of 1812, Darius Dryer, and David Reed. Also there are twenty-four graves of those who served in the Civil War. Other early graves are David Butler, 1860; Mary M., daughter of Z. and J. Scoville, 1861; and Henry Wright, 1850-1909.

The Cemetery is organized for perpetual care, and Mrs. Cora Wisel Shields was a Director for fifteen years during the nineteen-twenties and thirties. Today this Cemetery serves as a nicely kept location for loved ones and friends.

West of the Butler Corners, discernible at times from State Road #327, are seen a few markers of an early burial lot. This was for the family of Benjamin Murphy. In 1838 the land was sold to the Butlers, for whom the corners were named. One grave was for a child of Charley Bodley, who was a brother of Newton Bodley. Also a Mr. Teal was buried there.

### STEUBEN TOWNSHIP

Named Cemeteries: Carter; Clark; Mount Zion; Pleasant Lake.

The next Township to be considered is that of Steuben which is directly east of Salem, with the town of Pleasant Lake the only community. North of the town, nearer to what was the vanished Steubenville, is to be found the very early little burial ground called the Clark Cemetery. The land was donated from a part of his farm by Dr. A. P. Clark, a busy pioneer physician. The second Cemetery was in the village of Pleasant Lake. It was soon to be established as "The Old Cemetery" of pioneer days which is the heart of the present public burying ground, The Pleasant Lake Cemetery. A little story of its origin is as follows: It was in the year 1835 of the great immigration into Steuben County that a pioneer caravan came into



Pleasant Lake. In one wagon there was illness, and they thought best to remain quiet for a day. It was "Grandma Ball" who was very sick, and that night she passed on, and the story tells that she was buried on the very spot where she died. With this grave, known as "Grandma Ball's" the Pleasant Lake Cemetery has grown to be a large plat. Since then the name of Ball has been known in and around Pleasant lake and is found on many markers in this Cemetery. Some other names of the early period which are found are: Crampton, Knapp, and many Van Aukens.

#### **Carter and Willner Cemeteries**

East of Pleasant Lake can be found the Carter and Willner Cemeteries. The former, a neighborhood burying ground, is on the line between Steuben and Otsego Townships. There is one grave for an 1812 War Soldier by the name of Frink. Also there are to be found graves for three Civil War Soldiers: Henry Gaylord, Burt Lemmon, and Parris Whitney.

#### **Mount Zion Cemetery**

Also found in Steuben Township, on the Golden Lake road, is the pretty Mount Zion Cemetery. In 1852 land was given by one of the first settlers, Henry Ritter, to establish this burial ground. In giving the land the stipulation was made that no lot was to be sold, but to be given as the need arose among the local settlers. The first grave was that of Henry Spigelmire. Among Civil War graves are to be found Eli Klink and Jacob Wolf. Today there are about eight-hundred graves, and great pride is taken in keeping the grounds in attractive condition. The present Trustees of the Cemetery are: David Ritter, President; Joe Freed, Treasurer; Henry Sunday, Secretary (grandson of the original Henry Ritter who gave the land).

#### **OTSEGO TOWNSHIP**

Named Cemeteries: Eddy; Bethel; Brick Church; Hamilton; Otsego Center.

#### **Eddy**

The Eddy Cemetery is east of Hamilton. In pioneer days, in a covered wagon driving over what was known as the Bellefontaine road (Lima, Indiana-Bellefontaine, Ohio), a little child sickened and died. In their sadness and worry of what to do with the body, the parents asked a fellow pioneer for permission to bury the remains on his

ground, and they were shown sympathy. A marker, a small slab of stone which was gotten out of a nearby stream, still remains at the spot. "A little child shall lead us," and this was the beginning of the Eddy Cemetery.

#### **Bethel Cemetery**

In the Bethel Cemetery are found also the graves of early pioneers; Samuel Scoville, 1815-1891; John Wesley Allomong, 1854-1904. This small burying ground was on the Arlo Eyster farm now owned by Herman Fix. Another old and small burying ground was known to be on the Harley Brooks farm. While the location is lost it is presumed that it was in an old orchard.

#### **Brick Church Cemetery**

The Brick Church Cemetery lies southwest of Angola and north of Hamilton. In the old part are found the names of Dauber and Walberg, along with others. Among the Civil War Veterans is the grave of Charles Wright, who served three years and six months, and fought through fourteen battles, the last of which was Gettysburg. He was then discharged at Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1864, from Co. H. 75th Ohio Vol. Reg.

#### **Hamilton Cemetery**

In 1835 John Fee came to Otsego Township as the first white settler. As in every township, the time came that a burial ground was needed and he was the one who gave of his land for the Hamilton Cemetery, and in 1852 a church was built.

As is the case in all cemeteries, many graves went too long with no substantial marker to preserve the location. It is interesting to find the earliest date, which, in the older cemeteries, easily can be over one-hundred years ago. Here the earliest date is on the marker with the name of Watson, who died in 1849 at the age of 89 years; George Becker, 1850, and David McAndarfar, 1851. From 1865 until 1929, there are found the dates for about twelve men who had served in the Civil war. Thomas Carlton was a Veteran of the Spanish American War, and Franklin Fee, 1945, aged 19 years, was killed at Iwo Jima, World War II. His body was returned by the U. S. Government for burial in the home cemetery. In the year 1954 several prominent citizens were interred: Oliver Hagerly, Guy Gnagy, Russell Taylor, a Veteran of World War I, and David Kepler, aged ninety-five years.

The sexton is Jack Sewell, and it is with thanks to Lyle Watkins that a complete list of Veterans buried in the Hamilton Cemetery can be listed in this chapter.

Fletcher Dirrim, a Trustee of the Cemetery, also has given many hours and much thought in preparing records that the history of this Cemetery may be preserved for future generations.

#### **Civil War Veterans**

W. N. Andrew; L. W. Beard; Alfred Bender; William Bender; Jefferson Bentz; Joseph Brown; N. E. Brown; William Brown; Alman Bullard; William Burnell; ..... Crain; Charles Crain; F. L. Crain; George Cosper; Robert Dirrim; Welsley Dirrim; Earlston Alexander; John Everhart; Albert Fetterhoff; Isaac Firestone; George Freed; William French; William Gandy; B. F. Griffith; John Lew Griffith; L. W. Griffith; Leaman Griffith; Henry Gurner; J. G. Hammond; Marion Howard; Theodore Hunt; Julius Jones; Benjamin Kannel; John Kennedy; Joseph Keyorice; Joseph Lockanire; Robert McCurdy; Phillip Mann; Albert Martin; Henry Martin; John Mayer; Hiram Merchant; James Myers; John Myers; Daniel Nellson; Fred Oberlin; Sam Oberlin; William Packer; James Ramsey; David Renner; Robert G. Renner; Adam Richey; Jacob Rummel; Godfrey Sattison; John Slentz; John Smith; Levi Story; William Story; Aaron Stout; Hiram Sweet; Spurgeon Taylor; J. W. Thomas; Joseph Vealey; John Ware; W. W. White; Jacob Wiler; Alexander Wilson; Ira Wilson; Charles Wright.

#### **Spanish American War Veterans**

Thomas Carlton; Earl Enzor; Marshall Enzor; Fletcher Gandy; Frank Kepler; Hugh Maxwell; Lewellyn Walburg; John Willenner; Elmer Zeigler.

#### **World War I**

Choler Firestone; Walter Griffith; O. D. Hull; Hale Miller; Leon Oberlin; Russell Taylor.

#### **World War II**

Franklin Fee.

West of the John Fee farm home, now owned by a great-grandson, Edward LeRoy Fee, there is still an untouched mound. This may have been started as a neighborhood burial ground in triangular shape with a tree at each corner. Here are seven graves, five for white, and two for color-

ed persons. While there are no indications to tell the history, and only a few scrubby trees left, the mound still stands unbroken, plowed around just as Mr. John Fee did in the early day.

#### **Otsego Center Cemetery**

In this cemetery there are to be found the names of the families of Zeller and Teagarden with many others, including some soldiers.

#### **Civil War Veterans**

Robert Humpheys; George Longdale.

#### **World War I**

Richard Struble.

This is considered a closed cemetery.

#### **North Otsego Cemetery**

This is another small cemetery started for a neighborhood burying ground and has grown to become a place dear in the hearts of those who have interred loved members of their family. Among these graves there can be found five for Civil War Soldiers: Halbert Burch; George Cory; Dewit Vaughn; Robert Wilkes; and Robert Wright. Also there is the grave for one Spanish American Soldier, Perry Walburg.

#### **RICHLAND TOWNSHIP**

Named Cemeteries: Alvarado, East Metz, South Metz, United Brethren Church Cemetery.

#### **South Metz Cemetery**

Richland Township is in the southeastern corner of Steuben County and is the second smallest township. Driving through the village of Metz, the dividing line between York and Richland Townships, a half mile to the south, you come to a small cemetery on a rise of ground among the trees, called The South Metz Cemetery. The land originally was owned by citizens of the community who deeded it to Nathaniel Pettit, Trustee, for burial purposes. The north half of the cemetery was deeded by Asa Gaskill, March 25, 1865, and the south half was conveyed by John Barcalow and Martha Barcalow, his wife, to Nathaniel Pettit, Trustee, on October 31, 1865.

Soon after the establishment of this public cemetery, bodies of a number of pioneer settlers were transferred from family burying plats, to this new graveyard. Among them was that of DeLafayette Barron, a Veteran of the War of 1812, who was the first settler in York Township, April,



1836, and who died four years later. Also here is the body of his son Roswell Barron, who came with his parents from New England, and who died in 1842 at the age of 22 years. Later, in 1869, the wife and mother, Arvilla Bradford Barron, was buried at their side. Another early grave was that of a soldier by the name of French. It is at the back part of the cemetery and always has a flag at Memorial Day time, although there is not much else to mark the grave. He, too, may have been an 1812 War Soldier.

Other early interments in this South Metz Cemetery were members of the families of Goodrich, Kinney, Calvin, Barcalow, Allman, Rakestraw, Repp, Bergaman, Zimmer, Letcher, Brandeberry, Gaskill, Robinson, Norris, Ingledue, McGew, Williams, Gilbert, Warner, Pettit, Rummel, Hand, Fast, Stowe. Some of these men were Civil War Soldiers who served their country, representing several Indiana Regiments.

Among World War Veterans there is a Richland Township Service man, Leo Jr. Sines, 23 years of age. Though not buried in his home county, he is not far from it, in Montpelier, Ohio, in the Riverside Cemetery. On his marker is found the inscription, "He gave his todays for our tomorrows."

There is to be found the monument of the village Doctor, Charles Goodale, 1834-1910, who administered to the community faithfully and lies among his people, Joseph, 1793-1860, and Eunice Goodale, 1796-1866.

#### United Brethren Church Cemetery

At the United Brethren Church Cemetery can be found the grave of Hugh Campbell. Other cemeteries in this Township are East Metz and Alvarado.

Among these cemeteries there is great similarity. The birth dates go back into the eighteenth century and the very early burial dates began with the eighteen thirties. There is, also, a great difference in the life span which plainly reveals that some of the pioneers could endure, better than others, the separation and disappointments, the hardships, and many times the poverty, that became their lot in untried fields.

In each "first acre," especially the early platted cemetery, many graves were without markers to represent the burial, either from no marker at all or from the lack of endurance of the slab. Many early graves were marked with slate or a stone on which a record was never inscribed.

In most every plat of the County there is silent evidence of those who returned from the battlefields to die, and to be buried in home soil.

From among "The household gifts that memory saves,  
But help to count the household graves,"  
We wander away, wondering "why the grave should be terrible"  
When so much of beauty and peace surrounds and encompasses them all.

In trying to write concerning the Cemeteries of Steuben County, I am indebted to those loyal citizens who, so graciously, helped to make this chapter as complete as it is. The incidents came from persons interested in knowing and preserving historical facts of our County.

A complete list of those who gave their lives in the service of their Country may be found in the chapter "The Last Full Measure of Devotion."

#### The Bald Eagle of Steuben County

This eagle was caught in Steuben County in 1904, by Edward J. Baker, who was born in Hackenbury, Lincolnshire, England. He came to America about 1850, and remained much of the remainder of his life in Steuben County, northwest of Angola, near Loon Lake. The account of his capturing that Bald Eagle, across from what is now the Steve Horn farm, was published in a number of newspapers, one of which was in Hackenbury, Lincolnshire, England. This is the story they told:

##### "Took Several Chances"

"Edward Baker, aged 83 years, who resides on a farm five miles northwest of Angola and near



Loon Lake, has furnished us a splendid item. Thursday of last week while walking on his farm he noticed a dark object in one of his wheat fields that, contrasted with the snow covered ground, looked like a stump. Feeling certain that there was no stump in that portion of the field, he approached the object and saw by the wind ruffling the feathers that it was a bird which he thought was an eagle. He hastened to the house for his gun, and again drew near to the bird which he found to be asleep with its head over its back and under its wing. He approached very cautiously, the more so as he neared the object, feeling confident that if it started to fly he could bring it down at that short distance. Mr Baker kept his nerve and when within a few feet of the bird, quietly laid down his gun and then carefully placed his arms around the proud old eagle and bound him fast. The bird, noted for its strength and fighting qualities was very difficult to manage, and Mr. Baker had his arms and hands full at the same time, yet, with his strong right arm around its body and his left hand grasping its neck, he succeeded in keeping its talons beating the air instead of his body, and carried the struggling old monarch of the bird kingdom to his corn crib where he now has it alive and well, with an appetite like a buzz saw. It is a fine specimen of the American Eagle, standing about three feet high with wings measuring seven feet from tip to tip. Mr. Baker is very proud of his catch, and we do not believe there is another man in the United States who can claim the honor of catching an eagle in this way. The bird will be placed on exhibition at the coming show of the Steuben County Poultry Association."

This story was told by Mr. Baker's granddaughter, Marguerite Manahan.



## Our Senior Citizens

By *Ethel Tritch*

Steuben County's first permanent settler came to Jackson Township one hundred and twenty-three years ago, in the year of 1831. Now we have

a population of 17,087. Little real improvement as we think of it today, was made in those first thirty to forty years. Our great-grandparents were too busy wresting a bare living from the virgin country to do more.

On the sturdy shoulders of their sons and daughters fell this great task. Nor was it too great a task. Look where you will, fine cultivated fields, beautiful modern homes, paved highways, beautiful lake resorts, replace virgin forest and prairie, log cabins, trails, "corduroy" roads, swamps and marshy lake sides. To these our Senior Citizens who broke our lands, drained our swamps, surveyed and laid out our highways, we humbly dedicate this Chapter.

Most of the people whose names appear in this article are still living; some few have passed on to their final rest since the beginning of 1954.

To these ancestors of ours, strong in mind, heart, and body, we owe our comfort, our progress, our very way of life today. To these we owe an eternal debt of gratitude, and to them we give our heartiest thanks. To our doctors, who answered our calls for help, day and night, sunshine or rain, through snow or mud, we owe our lives. To our teachers, who taught us the precepts of life, along with the three R's, we owe thanks for a fuller life and a keener enjoyment of living. What a difference in the schoolbuildings of then and now. Compare the cold one room building where the teacher taught all eight grades, carried the wood, swept the floors, and tended the fires, to our beautiful, steam heated, sanitary, many roomed schoolbuildings of today.

To our civic and business leaders we owe the growth of our towns and opportunities for better living. Our farmers who have brought our lands to the present high state of production are not to be forgotten. They too have brought about great changes. From oxen to tractor, from cradle to combine, from virgin forest and prairie, to the beautiful farmsteads of today, they have brought us. Beside these men were their helpmates, their wives. They baked the bread, made the butter, sewed the family clothes, made cheese, and soap for the family washing. Many of their tasks are almost lost arts today.

To these, Our Senior Citizens, we offer these words of appreciation and our eternal debt of gratitude.



## Senior Citizens of Steuben County

Name	Residence
Allion, William	Angola, Indiana
Aldrich, Harriett	Angola, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	
Arnold, Lilly	Angola, Indiana
Bair, Irwin	Hudson, Indiana
Baker, Frank	Hudson, Indiana
Barto, Zella	Hudson, Indiana
Benninghoff, Miss Ella	Angola, Indiana
Bevier, Lisa	Fremont, Indiana
Bodley, I. D.	Angola, Indiana
Bowerman, Rose	Angola, Indiana
Butler, Roelif	Hudson, Indiana
Butler, Loren	Hudson, Indiana
Butler, Ora	Hudson, Indiana
Case, Wm.	Sturgis, Michigan
(dec. since this writing)	
Brown, Bert	Miami, Florida
Carpenter, Charles	Angola, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	
Carey, Morton	Hamilton, Indiana
Chancellor, John	Orland, Indiana
Clark, John	Angola, Indiana
Cline, Mary Allison	Angola, Indiana
Cleckner, Hattie Cole	Angola, Indiana
Honess, Leon	Angola, Indiana
Collins, Albert J.	Orland, Indiana
Covell, Ivor	Fremont, Indiana
Cole, Owen	Hudson, Indiana
Crain, Lovilla Klink	Angola, Indiana
Crone, Addie	Angola, Indiana
Cox, Ida	Helmer, Indiana
Cox, Alma	Helmer, Indiana
Decker, Henry	Fremont, Indiana
Decker, Addie Cole	Fremont, Indiana
Deller, Mrs. I. D.	Pleasant Lake, Indiana
Denman, Dr. R. D.	Helmer, Indiana
(50 years in Helmer)	
(dec. since this writing)	
Dewire, Ella Rosenberger	Angola, Indiana
Dirrim, C. B.	Hamilton, Indiana
Dolph, Rena	Pleasant Lake, Indiana
Ellis, Adah	R. R. Angola, Indiana
Emerick, J. F.	Ray, Indiana
Emerick, Bessie	Ray, Indiana
(celebrated 65th wedding anniversary, Sept. 1954)	
Elliott, Jennie Bratten	Fremont, Indiana
Ewers, DeWitt	Angola, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	

Fee, Ora	Metz, Indiana
Ferris, T. I.	Pleasant Lake, Indiana
Folck, Rebecca	Angola, Indiana—R.F.D.
(dec. since this writing)	
Fox, Georgia	Angola, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	
Foss, Sadie	Fremont, Indiana
Frock, Eliza Deal	Angola, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	
(59 descendants and 8 great-great-grandchildren)	
Friend, Morton	Orland, Indiana
Friend, George Kidder	Orland, Indiana
Ferguson, Miss Mamie	Hudson, Indiana
Gay, Millie Baker	Angola, Indiana
Gallertia, George	Hamilton, Indiana
Green, Arthur	Fremont, Indiana
Gilbert, Frank	Angola, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	
Gripman, Mae Isenhower	Fremont, Indiana
Gilbert, Myra	Angola, Indiana
Hager, James	Hamilton, Indiana
Hager, Daisy Erlsten	Hamilton, Indiana
Hagerty, Cashus	Hamilton, Indiana
Hagerty, Minnie Beard	Hamilton, Indiana
Hand, Viola	Metz, Indiana
Harmon, Carrie Johnson	Angola, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	
Hardy, Encie Taylor	Angola, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	
Heath, George	Orland, Indiana
Heath, Floy VanFossen	Orland, Indiana
Holdridge, Bion	Angola, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	
Huffman, James	Pleasant Lake, Indiana
Hovarter, Sylvia	Ashley, Indiana
Hughes, Frank	Angola, Indiana
Imhoff, Mr. and Mrs. Peter	Orland, Indiana
(Mrs. Imhoff dec. since this writing)	
Iddings, Lottie	Angola, Indiana
Johnson, Emory	Hudson, Indiana
Jennings, Emma Durr	Hamilton, Indiana
Kain, Mrs. Cleo	Orland, Indiana
Kemery, Olive Huffman	Hudson, Indiana
Kepler, Frank	Angola, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	
Kerlin, George	Hudson, Indiana
Knisley, Mrs. Kate	Fremont, Indiana
Kelso, Chloe	Fremont, Indiana
Kunce, George	Hudson, Indiana
Ladow, Jennette	Salem Center, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)	

Ladow, Miss Harriet Salem Center, Indiana  
 Lane, Dr. W. H. Angola, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing)

Libey, John Hudson, Indiana  
 Libey, Mrs. Carrie Hudson, Indiana  
 Lower, Ira Helmer, Indiana  
 Lower, Albert Helmer, Indiana  
 Laird, Joseph Fremont, Indiana  
 Loukes, John Fremont, Indiana  
 Loukes, Eva Perrine Fremont, Indiana  
 Lockhart, Robert W. Pleasant Lake, Indiana  
 Lockhart, Mary Hartman Pleasant Lake, Indiana  
 Mast, Lottie Angola, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing)

Main, Harriett Nelson Hudson, Indiana  
 McMurtry, Henry Fremont, Indiana  
 Manahan, Bert Angola, Indiana  
 Mann, Lloyd Ray, Indiana  
 Mann, Nora Baker Ray, Indiana  
 McKibben, Mr. and Mrs. Perry Orland, Indiana  
 Marks, Rose Angola, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing)

Miller, Ira V. Angola, Indiana  
 Morrison, William Stroh, Indiana  
 Mountz, Emma Ward Angola, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing, has 63 descendents)  
 Myers, Joanna Gushwa Angola, Indiana  
 Mobley, Rachel Jane Angola, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing, 75 descendents)

Norman, Cora Hudson, Indiana  
 Nichols, Arzetta Burch Angola, Indiana  
 Obenchain, A. L. Angola, Indiana  
 Oury, Mrs. Katie Angola, Indiana  
 Phillips, Frank Angola, Indiana  
 Phillips, Loretta Chamberlain Angola, Indiana  
 Phillips, Anna Arnold Angola, Indiana  
 Perkins, Jada Stroh, Indiana  
 Penny, Lou Hamilton, Indiana  
 Pike, Elizabeth Hudson, Indiana  
 Pocock, Fannie Lehman Orland, Indiana  
 Purdy, Howard E Orland, Indiana  
 Pinchon, Hiram H. Fremont, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing)

Ransburg, Jennie Metz, Indiana  
 Rinehart, Mrs. Mavel Angola, Indiana  
 Renner, Ike Pleasant Lake, Indiana  
 Rockey, David Hamilton, Indiana  
 Ritter, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hudson, Indiana  
 Rowe, Florence Hall Hudson, Indiana  
 Reinohl, Mrs. Cora Hudson, Indiana

Shuman, Erstin Angola, Indiana  
 Rippey, Miss Zada Hudson, Indiana  
 Spangler, Melissa Hiner Hudson, Indiana  
 (has 79 descendents)

Ryan, Sim Angola, Indiana  
 Shaughniss, Mr. and Mrs. Wilsie Angola, Indiana  
 Seible, Cora Orland, Indiana  
 Seeley, Mrs. Addie Angola, Indiana  
 Sheets, Fred Angola, Indiana  
 Scott, Ella Reppard Fremont, Indiana  
 Shontz, Curtis Hudson, Indiana  
 Sharp, Kate Rema Hamilton, Indiana  
 Shippey, Mrs. Hudson, Indiana  
 Sharp, Ellen Carpenter Hudson, Indiana  
 Stanley, Bessie Angola, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing)

Shields, Cora Hudson, Indiana  
 Somers, Ida Webb Angola, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing)  
 Somerlott, Almira Mabie Angola, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing)

Stettler, Frank Pleasant Lake, Indiana  
 Shutts, Elizabeth Angola, Indiana  
 Sunday, Henry Pleasant Lake, Indiana  
 Sunday, Dora Hoyer Pleasant Lake, Indiana  
 Seiple, Catherine Alwood Hamilton, Indiana  
 Soule, Ira Fremont, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing, had 89 descendents)

Sowle, Lilly Angola, Indiana  
 Stettler, Edward Angola, Indiana  
 Sherrick, Miss Definbaugh (Not Known)  
 Straiter, Addie Angola, Indiana  
 Talmadge, Laura Stroh, Indiana  
 Turner, Lucy Shutts Angola, Indiana  
 Thompson, Hattie Springer Angola, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing)

Tuttle, Carl Pleasant Lake, Indiana  
 Tuttle, Worthy Pleasant Lake, Indiana  
 (dec. since this writing)



Lloyd P.  
Mann

Mrs. Lloyd P.  
Mann

Mr. and Mrs.  
Mann live near  
Clear Lake; both  
are very active for  
their years. They  
are members of the  
Clear Lake Baptist  
Church.



Vose, William	Angola, Indiana	Wicuff, Ella Hunt	Lakeland, Indiana
(dec. since this writing)		Wilcox, Frank	Pleasant Lake, Indiana
VanPelt, Luella Powers	Metz, Indiana	Wood, Pearl Boots	Hudson, Indiana
VanFlossen, Albert	Orland, Indiana	Wisel, Miss Elsie	Hudson, Indiana
VanFlossen, Allie Casebeer	Orland, Indiana	Wilson, Marcellus	Metz, Indiana
Ward, Walter	Hudson, Indiana	Zonker, Dan	Hudson, Indiana
Ward, Ida Griffin	Hudson, Indiana	Zonker, Clara Mills	Hudson, Indiana
Wert, Effie		Zabst, Mrs. Frank	Angola, Indiana

# Church and Educational Development



## Steuben County Churches

By Rev. L. G. Sapp

A Community without Churches would be without doubt, like home without Mother. Their influence is far reaching.

The Church is the life-line of the community. It is an inspiring light in a darkened world, therefore, we feel it plays an important part in our new History, and in the following pages we have endeavored to bring you interesting facts and data concerning the numerous Churches of "Old Steuben," with no partiality shown because of religious differences.

Many thanks are extended to the various pastors who responded to the invitation given by Rev. Sapp to help make the "Chapter on Churches" possible. Appreciation is expressed to the following ministers: Rev. Norman Kistler, Rev. Thomas Herbon, Rev. Kenneth Hornbuckle, Rev. Allen Amstutz, Rev. Richard Burton, Rev. Maxwell Brown, Father Andrew Maas, Rev. Carl E. Greek, Rev. C. C. Conn, Rev. Charles A. Rix, Rev. Paul D. Henry, Rev. Raleigh C. Walker, Rev. Russell M. Brayton, Rev. Vern M. Noll, Rev. James W. Hailwood, Rev. I. Pusey, Rev. A. J. Lewis, Rev. John Jones. Also to the following laymen and women: Mrs. Emmet Chard, Mrs. D. C. Oury, Mrs. Paul Dygert, Mrs. John Elliott, Orville Stevens, Cecil Swift, and the late Ben Swenson, for their co-operation and help in securing the factual information and preparing briefs from which I was able to prepare a short history of the churches of Steuben County.

### Angola Methodist Church

Earliest records of Methodist ministry in Steuben County date back to 1836. The records hold that in that year an itinerant Methodist preacher by the name of A. B. Young used to stop occasionally to conduct services in this county while

on his way to one of the many churches on his circuit. This gesture was purely voluntary as there was no charge in Steuben County.

Two years later, Steuben County became part of LaGrange circuit, which also included LaGrange county, the southern portion of Branch county, Michigan; Mongoquenony, Pretty, Brushy, Jackson, and Willow Prairies. Richard Hargrave was presiding elder at that time. G. M. Boyd and a Mr. Jenkins were preachers for the circuit. These men were followed next by Warren Griffith and Erastus Kellogg, who in turn were succeeded by S. K. Young and E. Holdstack in 1840.

In 1841 this county was released from the LaGrange circuit and was established as the Steuben Circuit. First to minister to this circuit were E. S. Blue and John Hard. At that time services were held in the Steuben Court House. W. J. Forbes (1843-44), C. W. Miller (1845), Ricketts (1845), S. Smith (1847), J. J. Cooper (1848), and J. G. Osborne (1849-1850) completed the decade as ministers for the newly formed circuit. During the ministry of J. G. Osborne the Angola circuit was divided from north to south to make two circuits—the Angola and the Orland circuits. This division was continued for ten years. During that time the Angola circuit was served by A. C. Barnhart (1851), J. Foster (1852-53), J. H. Hutchinson (1854-55), J. Clock (1856-57), J. Schaffer (1858), J. Ayers and F. S. Simpson (1859-60). In a letter which Hutchinson wrote to C. G. Hudson, who served the charge several years later, he reports that at the time he succeeded Foster (in 1854) the Angola circuit included the following appointments: "Angola, Battersons, Hays, Jimtown, Fremont, Jones, Jenkins, an appointment two miles and a half east of Fremont, Hathaways, York, Clarks, Pleasant Lake, Johnsons, and sometimes between Angola and Lake Gage." From this report it would seem that Angola circuit was quite large enough; but in 1860 we find that it was reunited with the Orland circuit and that it remained so until 1865. Perhaps this reunion was a matter of expediency during those war years. At any rate we find that during those years the entire circuit was served by these men—E. Hall



and S. Hoover (1861), E. Hall and T. Sells (1862), J. W. Smith and T. Sells (1863), J. J. Cooper and J. R. Oden (1864), and O. P. Baydon (1865).

This brings us to the close of the Civil War, at which time the Angola-Orland circuit was once again divided, this time permanently. This time the Angola circuit included Angola, Brockville (Fremont), Hathaways Corners, York Center, Powers School House, Jones School House, and the Sand Hill School House. Upon the recommendation of O. P. Baydon, Jamestown and Loon Lake were added to the circuit. The records state that Henry Hill then came to aid Baydon until Baydon's untimely death some seven weeks after the meeting of the Quarterly Conference which had reestablished the Angola circuit. Hill and Gaff then served the circuit until they were succeeded by O. D. Watkins. Watkins remained until 1867, when J. W. Miller and A. C. Gerard came to take over the responsibilities of the circuit. In this year the Sand Hill and Loon Lake charges were abandoned and the Powers School Charge was transferred to a Disciples Church Circuit.

The church records for the next five years are all but non-existent. Only the names of the ministers who served remain. They were: A. V. Gorrell (1868), A. Cone (1869-71) and A. W. Lamport (1872). Lamport wrote that in the year of his appointment, Angola was made a station and the circuit was subdivided. This time the Angola circuit included only Angola and Jones; Pleasant Lake was added for some six months but was abandoned at the end of that time, "for want of a house for service." In Lamport's report he urged his successors to make every effort "to find a house for services" there and to try and plant the religious seed in this hot-bed of spiritualism, rationalism, and infidelity. Evidently this whole region waged quite a battle against these rival forces for many years; for in Hutchinson's letter to Hudson, (referred to earlier) the former reports "Angola was then (1854-55) the headquarters of infidelity and spiritualism in all its phases and forms. They were in the habit of frequently interrupting when I was trying to preach. The infidels ran a vile paper in Angola. They called it "The Truth Seeker" but I christened it "The Truth Killer."

Although the early Methodist congregations in this territory met for some time in the court house—and sometimes in the school house, according to some reports, they did finally erect a

church during the ministry of the afore-mentioned Hutchinson. In 1855, Angola, then a town of 25 years standing, became the site of the first Methodist Church, a frame building 50' x 35' with a belfry and spire. This building was located on the northwest corner of Broad and West Streets—on lot 16. (For many years after this location was abandoned by the Methodist congregation, it was the site of the J. B. Parsell residence.) Services were held in this church until October 9, 1875. This was the date of the last service held there prior to the moving of the church to lot 52 on West Maumee Street. While the church was being moved the congregation held services in the court house. When once again in the church, the congregation continued services there for some ten years until fire destroyed this original structure.

The second Methodist church in Angola was erected in 1889 or 1890. The new church was located on the West Maumee site. It was dedicated by Earl Cranston (later Bishop Cranston) on May 4, 1890. At that time J. A. Beatty was pastor. Members of the Board of Trustees at that time were: J. J. Metzgar, G. W. Bodley, W. W. Uhl, J. Y. Burkhart, T. E. Purinton, Edgar Field, and J. W. McCrary.

Those who served the church in the intervening years were—W. E. McCarty (1873), W. R. Kistler (1875), G. B. Work (1877), C. G. Hudson (1878-79), P. Carlin (1880-81), I. M. Wolverton (1882-83), E. Holdstock (1884-85), M. S. Metts (1886), and S. J. McElwee (1887-88) L. M. Krider, J. E. Ervin, and F. M. Kemper served the church until 1890. It was during the ministry of F. M. Kemper that the parsonage was built (1898). After Kemper came: A. G. Neal (1900-04), A. S. Wooten (1904-05), J. K. Watts (1905-07), Sherman Powell (1907-08), M. S. Marble (1908-12), H. S. Nickerson (1912-16), M. Pell (1916-19), L. G. Jacobs (1920-23), H. A. P. Homer (1923-26), W. E. Hogan (1926-29), Thomas Davies (1929-36), N. E. Smith (1936-43), John W. Borders (1943-49), L. G. Sapp (1949- ).

On June 19, 1932 a Homecoming was held at the Angola Methodist Church to celebrate the 90th anniversary of its establishment. Rev. Thomas Davies who was pastor, with the assistance of Mrs. Carrie Brown (one of the oldest members) had planned a very wonderful program. Honorable Arthur Sapp gave the sermon in the morning. In the afternoon Mr. W. W. Uhl, Mrs. Carrie

Brown and Mrs. Mary Hostetler gave interesting reminiscent talks about the building and the growth of the present church.

In the early morning hours of February 12, 1948, a disastrous fire gutted the church building. Although stunned by the loss, the congregation under the fine leadership of Rev. John Borders soon had plans made for rebuilding and enlarging the church. The new Church building was formally opened September 28, 1949. Several church men of prominence were present. Bishop Richard C. Raines gave the address—also present were District Superintendent A. Wesley Pugh and Rev. John W. Borders and the pastor, Rev. L. G. Sapp.

On October 8, 1952, the Church was dedicated, all indebtedness having been paid. At that time Rev. J. W. Borders gave the sermon and the mortgage was burned with appropriate ceremonies.

Rev. L. G. Sapp is the present pastor. The church has a membership of 650. The trustees are: Charles Stevens, Glen Beatty, Don Fulton, Ray Alwood, Lloyd Killinger, Carl Peachey, Knight Whitman, William Bodley and John Estrich.

#### **Flint Methodist Church**

In 1869 Rev. Asher Preston, who had been conducting worship services for the Flint people in an old schoolhouse, started a fund toward the building of a new church. Dan Benninghoff, Dr. Blue, and John Crandall all donated sums toward the fund. In 1872 the church was finally completed. It was built on a low wall; its front steps mounted either side of a square plank platform. The congregation waited some twelve or fifteen years before purchasing a bell. The steeple, originally eighty feet high, has since been sawed to a shorter length because it was once struck by lightning.

The early ministers served three churches in addition to the one at Flint, since Flint was only one church on a four-church circuit. The other churches were located at Orland, Nevada, and Springfield. The first minister to serve the church was Rev. Watkins. Others were Rev. Van Slack, Rev. Lamport, Rev. Stam, Rev. Powel, Rev. Dougherty, Rev. Marbel, and Rev. A. H. Curry. Others who served the church later were Ralph Jones, Ross Stoakes, Russel Jones, Rev. Somwalt, Rev. Darrel Stoakes, Rev. Asher Preston, Rev. Hornaday, Rev. Turner, Rev. Shutts, Rev. Brown,

Rev. Burke, Rev. Barker, Rev. Garns, Rev. Wyant, Rev. Jaycox, and Rev. Berry, also Rev. Olin Lehman, Rev. Conn and the present minister, Rev. J. A. Hubbell.

#### **First Methodist Church of Fremont**

The First Methodist Church at Fremont—or the Fremont Methodist, as it is more frequently called, was founded in the year 1841. Instrumental in the founding were Rev. Blue, pastor of the Angola Methodist Circuit, and a small group of Methodist families settling in the community, then called Brockville. Until the first frame building was erected the congregation met in homes, barns, and other places around the small village. Once the frame church was completed, it became the established place of worship and remained so until it was destroyed by fire on Saturday, March 22, 1930.

The present church—a brick structure—was dedicated September 21, 1930. Rev. Homer A. Kirk was pastor at that time. The following pastors have served the Fremont Methodist Church: Rev. Blue, Rev. Forbes, Rev. Miller, Rev. Ricketts, Rev. Smith, Rev. Hoover, Rev. Hall, Rev. Sells, Rev. Smith, Rev. Cooper, Rev. Oden, Rev. Boyden, Rev. Miller, Rev. Hill, Rev. Gerard, Rev. Gorrell, Rev. Daniels, Rev. Mackin, Rev. King, Rev. Lamport, Rev. Clingel, Rev. Preston, Rev. Howe, Rev. Currie, Rev. McCurdy, Rev. Lewis, Rev. Reeves, Rev. Brandeberry, Rev. Hagenbock, Rev. Foster, Rev. Jones, Rev. Wilcox, Rev. Stockdale, Rev. Cone, Rev. Sprague, Rev. Reichelderfer, Rev. Dougherty, Rev. Hickman, Rev. Carlson, Rev. Kemper, Rev. Clear, Rev. Graham, Rev. Pyschon, Rev. Thompson, Rev. Avery, Rev. Elson, Rev. Conway, and Rev. Pusey.

#### **Angola Church of Christ**

The pioneering of the Church of Christ in Angola was started by David C. Hanselman in 1852; and occasional meetings were held for several years under his direction and that of James Hadsel, Samuel Wanamaker, Randall Faurot, Burdette B. Goodale, Thomas Moffett, A. N. Bartlett, and Myron Gleason. Joshua Goodrich, who had held a successful evangelistic meeting at Metz, was invited to hold such a meeting at Angola. He accepted the invitation and held his meeting January 31, 1866, in a small church building occupied alternately by the Presbyterians and the Methodists. As a result of this meeting twenty-



one were baptized and nine were added by letter and statement. After the Goodrich meeting, a temporary church organization was set up. So far as is known the first officers were Christian Fast and W. P. Ogden, Elders; and E. N. Woodford, Deacon.

The real activities of the church in Angola began with the call of John Aylsworth as pastor in October, 1869. At that time the church was re-organized and a definite building program was planned. The first church building was erected in 1870 on the present site and was later remodeled and improved by annexes to the east and north. John Aylsworth closed his work in the spring of 1872. During his ministry the membership of the church had increased from thirty to over seven hundred. He was succeeded by his younger brother, William P. Aylsworth, who was instrumental in paying off the church debt in full in the year 1879. During the ministry of William P. Aylsworth a church bell was installed, and when the church was rebuilt in 1910 this bell was donated by the Angola church to the Lake James Assembly. It is now in use there and is rung hourly during the Assembly sessions.

The present building was erected in the year 1910 during the pastorate of Vernon Stauffer. Today's church is located on the site of the original church. The church at Angola has always been mission-minded and through its efforts has helped to establish churches at Fairview, Flint, South Scott, Lake Gage, and Silver Lake. The Angola church has sent out over one hundred preachers and missionaries to other fields of service. Among them were Bertha Clawson, missionary to Japan for many years, and Zonetta Vance, who went to India.

The following is a list of the pastors of the Angola church and the years in which they served:

N. J. Aylsworth .....	1869-1872
W. P. Aylsworth .....	1872-1880
A. S. Hale .....	1880-1882
H. A. Pallister .....	1882-1885
F. P. Arthur .....	1886-1891
E. R. Black .....	1891-1892
E. A. Cole .....	1892-1896
Chas. S. Medbury .....	1897-1903
Vernon Stauffer .....	1904-1911
C. W. McCord .....	1911-1913
John R. Golden .....	1913-1914
Paul G. Preston .....	1914-1917

George B. Townsend .....	1918-1922
W. F. Shearer .....	1922-1923
Walter E. Harman .....	1923-1927
W. O. Foster .....	1927-1931
Basil Holt .....	1931-1937
Edgar Allen .....	1937-1938
J. J. Whitehouse .....	1938-1944
Lee C. Maynard .....	1945-1949
Owen L. Crouch .....	1950-1953
Richard Burton .....	1953-

### First Church of Christ, Scientist

Christian Science was introduced in Angola in 1911 through the healing of Mrs. Leopold C. Stiefel, a prominent early resident of Angola. Mr. and Mrs. Stiefel for many years owned and operated Stiefel's Department Store in this city. The first Christian Science service in Angola was held in the home of the Stiefels on Sunday, March 5, 1911, with five students present. Services were next held in the reception room of the Odd Fellows Lodge Hall, beginning Sunday, November 24, 1912. Many healings were reported and attendance increased rapidly, numbering more than twenty before the year ended. In May of 1921 the group moved to the Sorosis Club Room in the Waller Building and with twenty charter members was organized into the Christian Science Society of Angola, officially recognized as a branch of the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts.

A church property was purchased at Martha and Gale Streets. The building was remodeled during the summer of 1922 and the first service was held there on Sunday November 26, 1922. As is customary in all Christian Science Churches, a First and Second Reader were elected by the membership to serve for a three year term.

Regular Wednesday evening testimony meetings were conducted each week by the First Reader and included readings from the Bible and Science and Health, testimonies of healing, experiences and remarks on Christian Science. A free Christian Science lecture was given each year by a member of the Board of Lectureship of the Mother Church. A member of the Society was appointed as Assistant to the Committee on Publication of the Mother Church in Boston for the purpose of correcting mis-statements of Christian Science in the area. All of these activities have continued up to the present time.

The required membership, including a registered Christian Science practitioner, has been attained. In 1942 the Mother Church recognized the Society as First Church of Christ Scientist, Angola, Indiana. A free public reading room was opened each week on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, where the Bible and authorized Christian Science literature might be read, borrowed or purchased.

In October of 1953 the building at Martha and Gale Streets was sold and the spacious brick home of former President Handy of Tri-State College was purchased. Services are now held at the new location at 402 South Wayne Street. The Sunday School occupies the second floor and a Reading Room is maintained on the first floor. Because of the great need for additional seating capacity, a new auditorium is now being planned as an addition to the main building. This projected room will enable the church to seat approximately one hundred more people.

#### South Scott Church of Christ

Various religious sects of the South Scott community held their meetings in the school houses in the vicinity, or in the open air, before the erection of the South Scott Union Church in 1886. The Woodworth School was the meeting place of the Dunkards, who held their meetings every eight weeks. The Corbin and Zimmerman School buildings were used by the Latter Day Saints and other religious groups. At one time a six weeks' debate was held at the Zimmerman School between S. W. L. Scott, representing the Latter Day Saints, and Clark Braden of the Church of Christ.

After a time, however, an organizational meeting was held at the Zimmerman School House under the direction of Rev. F. P. Arthur, then minister of the Church of Christ at Angola. The desire to erect a church building was expressed so strongly that plans were formed for a canvass of the community to raise funds for this purpose. Because of the many denominations represented there were several questions raised concerning the use of such a building. Several pledges were withdrawn, but enough supporters were loyal to the cause to carry out their plans; and the church was erected on the spot where it now stands.

The original tract of three-fourths of an acre was purchased in March, 1886, by Benjamin F.

Taylor from B. Frank Deller. Mr. Taylor then made a Quit Claim Deed to the trustees of the South Scott Union Church and their successors for the benefit of a church organization. The trustees at that time were William Harmon, William Hanna, Warden Johnson, Alfred Hantz, and B. Frank Deller. It was agreed that the church building when erected was to be used freely for the worship of God by any and all Christian denominations and not to be controlled by any particular sect or church organization. In the event that any one group attempted to assume full possession and authority over the land, it was to revert to Mr. Deller. The men in the community donated their labor in the erection of the building while Mrs. Clara Deller supplied meals to the builders.

The first meeting of the congregation of the South Scott Church of Christ was held April 8, 1887, under the leadership of Rev. F. P. Arthur. The following officers were elected for a term of one year: George Rummel, Elder; Peter Zimmerman, Henry Hanna, Deacons; Warden Johnson, Treasurer; Charles M. Young, Clerk. There were twenty charter members of the church. They were:

Henry Hanna	Rhoda Waller
Lucy Hanna	Brady Swift
Harriet Hanna	Willard Sowle
Mary E. Dotts	Mary E. Page
Jane Frye	Ella Young
Della Light	Charles Young
George Moughler	Libbie Zimmerman
Jacob Moughler	Anna Zimmerman
Carrie Moughler Harmon	Maria Zimmer
Mattie J. Opp	Susan Zimmer

Baptismal services were held at Pigeon Creek near the Wickwire Bridge; and many members were added to the church membership roll during the ministries of the following preachers: F. P. Arthur, Hemry, Aldrich, Smith, Gillett, Hanselman, Schovill, Chapel, Hester, Stauffer, Ford, Carpenter, Couch, Warnock, Robert VanZile and A. P. Benjamin.

#### North Scott Church of Christ

The Church of Christ at North Scott was organized in the year 1873; but prior to that date a small group of Christians met in the Gifford School House in Scott Township for regular worship services. At these meetings Alonzo Dunham preached and led the services on most occasions and was instrumental in re-organizing the church.



On February 17, 1873, the church was re-organized with a membership of fifty-four and the first officers were: Michael Cline, Samuel Wolf, and Nathaniel Bennett, Elders; John C. Badger, Isaac Bennett, Thomas Henwood, and Peter Wolf, Deacons. This re-organization climaxed a fifteen day protracted meeting held by W. P. Aylsworth, the Angola pastor. Special evangelistic campaigns were held during the year 1875 by Myron M. Gleason in the Gifford School House and Elder John Street preached for the group in the Star School House in the year 1877 and was the regular pastor in 1878 and 1879. A meeting was also held in the school house by A. Burns about this time; and Elder David Green conducted services in the school houses in 1880.

During the ministry of Elder Streator, early in 1886, the church selected Bradford Wheaton, David Orewiler, Harvey Wilson, Peter J. Wolf, and S. H. Elliott as trustees to supervise the building of a house of worship. These trustees secured a deed for land that was located in the northwest quarter of section fourteen, Scott Township. The corner-stone of the church, which was of brick construction, was laid June 20, 1886. Elders Sniff and Streator conducted the ceremonies. The building was formally dedicated February 13, 1887 by L. L. Carpenter of Wabash, Indiana.

The first Official Board to serve the church in the new building was composed of Isaac Bennett, Elder; Israel Menges and Adam Orewiler, Deacons. Brother F. P. Arthur, pastor of the Angola church, held the first evangelistic meeting after the church was dedicated.

I. N. Aldrich of Angola was called as the regular preacher in 1888 and preached one year. Protracted meetings and intermittent preaching continued for the next several years. In August, 1892, J. O. Rose of Angola conducted services in the church. Edwin Olmstead served as pastor in 1893, A. M. Laird in 1894, and D. C. Hanselman in 1895; these men were followed by student preachers who were part-time workers; and many sermons were preached by the State Evangelists and other guest preachers through the years. M. O. Johnston began his work as pastor in April, 1899, and was assisted in special meetings by J. K. Hester and William Chapple in 1907 and 1909, by Charles Reign Schovill in 1909, and by E. W. Fitch in 1910. The church was served by J. O. Rose for several years. Russell F. Handy of Angola di-

vided his time as preacher and pastor between this church and the churches at Ashley and Cedar Lake. A. P. Benjamin is now the regular pastor, serving this church as well as those at Metz, Hamilton, and South Scott.

The outstanding work of the church throughout the years has been carried on through the Bible School, Young People's Circle, and the Bible Study Class conducted by the present pastor. This work has made the church mission-minded and has helped to fill the spiritual needs of the community.

### Metz Church of Christ

In January, 1843, a few people who had settled in the eastern part of Steuben County met to organize a church. The meeting was held at the residence of DeWitt C. Goodale on the farm in York Township known for years as the Fennimore farm. The meeting was attended by the following persons: Alanson C. Gray and wife Betsy, James Rich and wife Maria, Henry Letcher and wife Juliette, Burdette B. Goodale and wife Mary Ann, DeWitt C. Goodale, Emily Benjamin, and Otis H. Gould. All of these persons had been members of the Christian Church in Bedford, Ohio. An organization was formed with Burdette B. Goodale as Elder and James Rich and Alanson Gray as Deacons. The new church began with ten members. This was the first organization of a Church of Christ in Steuben County and was the nucleus around which has grown "The Metz Church."

Shortly after the organization of the church the membership was augmented by the addition of several members of the Burch family and Luke Hammond of Otsego, and a little later Orsemus V. Barnard of Pleasant Lake also added his name to the list of members. In 1845 Alonzo Dunham and several others from Ohio moved into the neighborhood and greatly strengthened the little band of worshipers.

For two or three years the meetings were held in private homes—quite frequently in the home of Henry Letcher and wife. After the erection of the Powers' School House and the school house at Hathaway's Corners in York Township, meetings were held alternately in these places until a more convenient place was found at the Cameron School House in Richland township. The next place of worship was a carpenter shop owned by George Letcher. The first yearly meeting

was held here in 1851, when an arrangement was made to hold a meeting each year beginning on Friday before the third Sunday in August. Meetings in accordance with the arrangement, with some changes, have been held in the county ever since.

In 1853 a school house was erected one-half mile east of Metz and services were held regularly in this place until the present church at Metz was built in 1864. Before the erection of the present church, Burdette B. Goodale did a large part of the preaching and held the position of Elder. Alonzo Dunham and O. V. Barnard were also among the early preachers. The first preacher from outside the county was Benjamin Alton of DeKalb County, who held meetings in 1843 and 1844.

As the congregation grew and prospered, it was decided that meetings in the school houses should be discontinued and a church should be erected. Caleb Rakestraw proposed to donate a lot for the building. A meeting was called on December 8, 1863, to take definite steps in the matter. Nathaniel Pettit acted as temporary chairman. Dr. Alphonso Wood was elected chairman and Dr. Theodore F. Wood became secretary. The motion was made and passed and Mr. Rakestraw's gift was accepted. Nathaniel Pettit, John W. Goodale, and Alphonso Wood, Sr., comprised the building committee. Nathaniel Pettit was elected trustee for the purpose of taking a deed for the lot on behalf of the church. The church building erected at that time is the one now standing. It was dedicated by L. L. Carpenter in 1864. This same Mr. Carpenter rededicated the building in 1902 following a general rejuvenation of the church.

The following have served the Metz Church as preachers and pastors:

T. A. Hedges	W. Grant Ward
L. L. Carpenter	Robert VanZile
C. C. Smith	Harry Belles
Ernest Long	A. P. Benjamin
W. F. Shearer	Judson Ladd
J. O. Rose	William Aylsworth
W. A. Sniff	Randall Faurot
H. L. Veach	L. W. Fairfield
W. C. Bower	Benjamin Alton
U. L. Wambaugh	Samuel Wanamaker
E. P. Couch	F. D. Durham
E. J. Cain	A. C. Bartlett

J. C. Ashley  
Chester McCord  
Joseph Scholes  
James A. Stewart  
Sherman Aldrich  
Frank Jones  
John Aylsworth  
Alonzo Dunham  
O. V. Barnard  
L. M. Sniff

James Hadsell  
D. C. Hanselman  
J. L. Sharrett  
D. C. Gillett  
Rev. Iden  
Ira Corman  
M. O. Johnston  
J. J. Davis  
J. K. Hester

### Hamilton Church of Christ

Prior to June, 1885, several persons in the Hamilton locality had been attending Christian Church services both at Metz, Indiana, and in the Coll School House in Troy Township, DeKalb County, Indiana. These people felt a need for a Church of Christ in the town of Hamilton after a while, however, and through the efforts of Jane and Luman Beard they were granted permission to hold an organizational meeting in the Hamilton Methodist Church. The first meeting was held on the evening of June 5, 1885. Eleven members were baptized at this meeting; plans were made to start building a church.

The first church officials were as follows: Elders: Talma Rummel and Charles Segur; Deacons: Lumen Beard and Thomas Hagerty; Clerk: I. N. Aldrich; Treasurer: Thomas Hagerty. Five trustees were chosen—James Lewis, Charles A. Segur, Ben Bell, Talma Rummel, and Luman Beard. Worship services were held on June 20, 1885; twenty-two members were present at that time.

Most of the work on the first building was done in 1885. The first dedication service in the new building was held on the third Sunday in January, 1886. The building was repaired and enlarged in 1909 and was then rededicated on October 3, 1909. Both dedication sermons were preached by L. L. Carpenter of Wabash, Indiana.

Ministers who have served this church are as follows:

J. T. Stewart	A. C. Bartlett
E. C. Fonce	T. A. Hedges
L. L. Carpenter	A. P. Benjamin
L. K. Rockwell	G. H. Sims
A. S. Hale	W. L. Stine
W. W. Wyrick	W. C. Patterson
W. T. Ackman	J. D. Driscoll
Silas M. Moot	Mr. Daily



Mr. Stewart	Mr. Brink
Mr. McKown	E. L. Branham
Mr. Stancil	W. F. Shearer
J. H. Scholes	C. C. Griggs
F. A. Thomas	L. W. Spade
Mr. Hoag	J. O. Rose
A. A. Amusison	Mark Wall
J. W. Kimberling	Ralph Bourne

### Fairview Missionary Church

The Fairview Missionary Church had its origin in the fall of 1927. At that time three brethren of the Missionary Church Association came to Angola, Indiana, to hold a tent meeting. The three were: Rev. Joe Klopfenstein, Rev. S. A. Witmer, and Rev. Ezra Myers. After the tent meeting Rev. Klopfenstein located an old church building at 315 Mechanic Street and began work on it. This church had been closed for many years, so his was a job of rejuvenating, cleaning, and remodeling. After completing this work, Rev. Klopfenstein made the church the home church for the Missionary people of Angola. It has remained so to this day.

The church was actually organized November 24, 1929, under the leadership of Rev. C. R. Gerig, Pastor. The following pastors have held charges in this church since its origin:

Rev. J. Klopfenstein	1927-1929
Rev. C. R. Gerig	1929-1932
Rev. J. Klopfenstein	1932-1934
Rev. P. Steiner	1934-1938
Rev. A. Amstutz	1938-1941
Rev. C. Imler	1941-1942
Rev. D. Russett	1942-1944
Rev. E. Roth	1944-1950
Rev. W. Sousley	1950-1953
Rev. N. Kistler	1953-

Today Rev. S. A. Witmer, who helped to conduct the tent meeting in 1927, is president of the Fort Wayne Bible College.

### First Congregational Church of Angola

After the Civil War, a small number of the people of Angola were Congregationalists, but up to the year 1867 they had worshipped with the Presbyterians, who had used the Methodist Church for a place of worship. In that year there was a disagreement between the Presbyterians and the Methodists over the use of the church; and the Congregationalists began holding their services in private homes. After a few months

the Congregationalists used a room of the schoolhouse in the town for their meeting place. As the few records seem to indicate, these meetings were not regular but were held only when a minister could be procured.

These irregular services proved unsatisfactory to the people. So, on May 19, 1869, the congregation started a movement to build a Congregational church. It appears from the early records that at this time there were only fourteen members of this particular denomination in Angola; but at the time the church was built, some of the well-to-do Presbyterians materially aided in financing the project. One of the early Congregational members, Marvin B. Butler, reported that the first Congregational Church in Angola could hardly have been built when it was, had it not been for the aid of these Presbyterians. There was a very cooperative spirit at the time between the members of the two Angola churches, and later on nearly all—or many—of the Presbyterians in Angola united with the Congregational church and were among its most influential members.

The first move toward the organization of the Congregational church in Angola was made on May 19, 1869, the date on which the building movement was initiated. At that time fourteen persons signed a call for a meeting to be held later on for the purpose of organizing the church; and the result was a meeting held in the schoolhouse on the following July 8th. At that time the actual organization was effected. A number of Congregationalists from other places were present at this meeting; among them were Rev. E. Halliday and Deacon Timothy Field of the Ontario, LaGrange County, Church; Rev. C. Kidder and Deacon Theodore Carpenter of the church of East Gilead at Bethel, Michigan; R. D. McCartha and J. Wilson of Salem Center; and Rev. N. A. Hyde of Plymouth Congregational Church of Indianapolis. It seems that at this time Rev. R. D. McCartha became the first pastor of the church.

There is no record of the incorporation of the Angola Congregational church but the first meeting of the trustees was held June 11, 1871, and public notice of trustees' meetings were given from time to time thereafter. It seems to have been a requirement of law in the seventies and eighties of the last century that a public notice of trustees' meetings for incorporated churches be given at intervals, as the

county records show that most churches of the time gave such notices, and it is doubtful if they would be given, had it not been compulsory, particularly as it involved some expense. In fact, it is stated in two of the notices, that they were given pursuant to law.

The construction of the first Congregational church began in 1871 at the corner of East Maumee and Euclid streets on lot number 150 in A. W. Hendry's addition to the town. As first constructed, the church building was a plain rectangular brick structure without a basement. It had a low cupola. Heat was provided by wood stoves.

In 1880 a steeple was added; and in 1893 an addition was made to the main body of the church, enlarging the auditorium. The original members were few; and it is evident that they had to make a strenuous effort to raise the money to pay for the church building. Farmers for some distance around the town were solicited for help; and a considerable number contributed small sums.

The location of the first Congregational church building soon became inconvenient for a majority of the members, as it was at a distance from their homes. When the church was built it was customary for most of the members to walk to church. The first building seems to have been erected where it was because of the fact that Mrs. A. W. Hendry, an early member, gave the lot for its location and contributed largely to its support. The building of the railroad through the west part of the city made the need for a more centrally located church, evident. The sentiment in favor of a change grew until it culminated in the building of a new church at the corner of West Maumee and North Superior Streets in 1899.

The very first Congregational church building was dedicated in 1871 by E. B. Fairfield, president of Hillsdale College, and Rev. W. B. Williams, a Congregational minister, of Charlotte, Michigan. We have only indistinct pictures of the personalities of the early ministers of the church. The first minister was Rev. R. D. McCartha, who was a charter member of the new church and also served another church in the county, probably the one at Fremont. The second minister was Rev. Halliday, the pastor of the Ontario, LaGrange County, Church. It is reported that he rode horseback between Ontario and

Angola while serving both churches. Following these two ministers were E. Andrus, John V. Hickmott, A. J. Dobson, C. A. Gleason, H. O. Spellman, Joseph T. Roberts, E. Sinclair Smith, Philip E. Holp, Cyrus E. Stockwell, John Humphreys, Harold Finley, Glenn L. Utterback, and Kenneth G. Hornbuckle.

It was largely because of the unceasing efforts of Rev. E. Sinclair Smith that the second church—which stands on the present church site—was erected. It was during his ministry that the plan for a new church building had its inception. On March 17, 1898, a meeting of the congregation was held to consider the building of a new church at a different location. William S. Ferrier, one of the wealthy citizens of the town, offered his aid to secure the lot where the present church stands; it was definitely decided at that time to proceed with the project. The United Brethren Society purchased the first church building on East Maumee Street; and Mr. Ferrier negotiated for the present site. The trustees employed George W. Kramer, a distinguished church architect of New York City, to draw the plans; and as soon as these were finished, the contract for the building was let to W. H. Maxwell, a contractor then living in Angola.

The cornerstone of the church was laid in the evening of July 28, 1898. The ceremonies at the time were conducted by Rev. Smith and Rev. J. A. Ainslee. The latter was the minister of the Plymouth Congregational church at Fort Wayne.

Rev. Charles S. Medbury of the Angola Christian church also assisted in the ceremonies. The new church was dedicated on February 18, 1900. In the meantime Rev. E. Sinclair Smith had resigned from the Angola pastorate; and Rev. Philip E. Holp of Chicago had been called as minister; it was Rev. Holp who presided at the dedication services. He was assisted by Rev. Ainslee.

With the exception of the roof and the interior furnishings, the new church was constructed of native stone and locally manufactured brick. For a period of forty-seven years it required only a new roof and a few minor repairs to keep it in good condition. In the year 1947 the church building was repaired and improved at a cost exceeding the original cost of the building.

One of the most significant events in the history of the church was the coming of Rev.



John Humfreys. He came to Angola in 1904 and had a continuous period of service for more than thirty-nine years. When his ministry began, the church did not have a hundred and fifty members; when he resigned it had four hundred names on the membership roll. It is said that never during his ministry were there any factional quarrels or disputes in the church.

After the retirement of Rev. Humfreys, the church was most ably served for several months by Rev. Myron L. Pontius. Rev. Harold Finley was pastor then for a period of about two years and a half; and after his resignation Rev. Pontius again served as interim pastor for several months until the coming of Rev. Glenn L. Utterback.

First Sunday school superintendent for the Congregational church was O. B. Dunning. A separate primary department of the Sunday school was first organized by Mrs. Isabelle Woodhull. Her assistant was Miss Vera Gilbert, now Mrs. Vera Janes. The first teacher of the Woman's Bible Study class was Mrs. Juliet Dickinson. After some ten years her place was filled by Mrs. Frank C. Robertson who in turn was succeeded by Mrs. Frank Wert. The records have it that the first president of the Social Society (Women's auxiliary) was Mrs. Joanna Wood, wife of Dr. H. D. Wood, who was one of the best known physicians in Angola. It was Rev. Finley who organized the Pilgrim Fellowship, the youth organization which still is in existence. In 1910 Edward D. Willis started the Boys' Brotherhood. Members of this organization attended summer camp at Camp Willis prior to the first World War. After that conflict, however, the organization terminated its function.

#### First Congregational Church of Orland

On the sixteenth day of March, 1836, the Steuben County successors of the Pilgrims, who helped to establish the Congregational Church in America, met at the schoolhouse in Orland to organize a society for religious worship. These early members were Walter Luce, Samuel Wright, Alexander Chapin, Jonathan Baldwin, Orlando Wilder, Kendrick Wilder, Samuel Scott, Adam Patterson, Alvin Partridge, W. H. Adams, and J. H. Cutler.

Prior to this meeting Presbyterians, Methodists, and Congregationalists had worshipped together as members of the Union Church in the school-

house. For ten years the Rev. Christopher Cory was the first pastor; and for twenty more the Rev. Jacob Patch was spiritual leader. In 1852 these people erected a church on land secured from Miles Kimball. It was built by volunteer labor supervised by Timothy Kimball; and in his home across the street from the building site the ladies, led by Harriet Luce Wilder, provided food for the builders.

Upon completion of the new church the three denominations began to hold joint services there just as they had in the schoolhouse. But eventually the Presbyterians and later the Methodists separated from this united organ; and on July 10, 1875, the Congregationalists adopted the Constitution of the Congregational Churches of America. Extensive changes were made from time to time; but at no period in the long years of church service was there any break or interruption. In 1891 the Constitution from Thompkins Manual was adopted; the current amended document is used today.

The year 1949-1950 saw the rejuvenation of the church foundation; during this time the congregation was necessarily ousted; it met at the Masonic Temple in Orland. The next busy year produced a marvelously restored church complete with belfry and bell.

Following is a list of the twenty-six pastors who have served the First Congregational church at Orland:

Christopher Corey .....	
Stephen Thompson .....	1836-46
Jacob Patch .....	1846-66
Corbin Kidder .....	1866-70
J. R. Bonney .....	1870-72
L. P. Rose .....	1872-74
Elijah Cash .....	1874-81
F. R. Preston .....	1881-85
Edwin Rose .....	1885-89
J. D. Travis .....	1889-92
J. R. Bonney .....	1892-98
William F. Harding .....	1898-1900
J. Perry Ratzel .....	1900-01
C. W. Long .....	1902-05
W.W. Schumaker .....	1905-08
E. W. Gray .....	1909-15
Henry Janes .....	1915-19
C. C. Mitchell .....	1919-24
E. W. Gray .....	1927-33

Jesse Beech .....	1935-36
G. W. Wigfield .....	1936-36
H. E. Warner .....	1937-43
J. K. Arnot .....	1947-49
J. M. Reese .....	1949-50
Kenneth Culver .....	1951-52
J. W. Hailwood .....	1952-

### **The Lake Gage Congregational Church**

The Lake Gage Congregational Christian Church was organized November 19, 1889. At that time several churches from the vicinity met at the Lake Gage School as a council; the question at hand was whether or not to declare it expedient for the Lake Gage Organization to conduct public services. The churches sent delegates to this council; they were as follows: Deacon S. A. Moss from Angola; Rev. T. T. Egerton and Charles Cook from East Gilead; Rev. J. R. Preston and C. L. Dewey from Fremont; A. Partridge, S. V. Scott, and M. T. Rose from Orland; and Rev. J. R. Preston from Ontario.

The council unanimously voted to recognize the Lake Gage Assembly as a Congregational Church with the following names as charter members: J. Fremont Bachelor, Mrs. Nattie Bachelor, Mr. J. VanWagner, Mrs. Mary VanWagner, Mrs. Abner Shipe, Miss Etta Morse, Mrs. Lyman Pierson, Mrs. Will Johnson, Mrs. Oliver Miller, Mr. Frank Brown, and Mrs. Frank Brown. A. A. Luce acted as moderator at this meeting, and Rev. J. R. Preston was scribe. The records of the founding of the church were notarized by Thompson Terry, Justice of the Peace, and filed in the Records of Deeds Office in Angola.

The present church building was erected in the year 1890 and was dedicated January 1, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel H. Clark gave the ground for the church, which is located about one-half mile east of Lake Gage on the first four corners. Rev. D. L. Travis was pastor at the time the church was built and was instrumental in making the building program a success. In 1954 extensive improvements were made on the building.

No correct account has been kept of the pastors that have served the Lake Gage Church. One reason for this is that for a number of years only Sunday School services were held. However, the pastors serving the church since 1941 are as follows: Rev. John Arnot, Rev. J. Morgan Reese, Rev. Charles A. Rix.

### **Calvary Lutheran Church of Angola**

Calvary Lutheran Church, the youngest church in Steuben County, was founded on March 16, 1954. Its membership at that time numbered forty-four. These forty-four members founded the church with the help of the pastor, Rev. F. E. Schoenbohm, and the intern, Mr. Rodney Josephson. Both of these men are from the Saint John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, Indiana. These two men served the congregation until June 27, 1954, when Pastor Thomas A. Herbon was installed.

The largest and most noteworthy service held in the Calvary Church to date was the installation of the first pastor, Pastor Herbon, on the above mentioned date. Pastor F. E. Schoenbohm of Fort Wayne preached the sermon and conducted the installation service. Intern Rodney Josephson acted as liturgist. More than two hundred people were in attendance at that service, which was held at 4:00 P. M. that day. The installation service was followed by a reception held in the Tri-State College cafeteria. Pastor and Mrs. Herbon were guests at this reception.

The congregation plans to erect a church building in the near future. Until such time as it does build, however, the congregation is a mission congregation of the American Lutheran Church. At present it is worshipping in the auditorium on the campus of Tri-State College.

### **Angola Gospel Tabernacle**

The Angola Gospel Tabernacle, which is located at East Mill and North Washington Streets, started its services in July 1941. It was dedicated Sunday, November 14, 1943. The Reverend Clifford Boughey of Adrian, Michigan, delivered the dedicatory message. The Tabernacle was dedicated as an interdenominational institution for the promotion of Christ's word and the salvation of lost souls. It was to be a place where all people could meet together to worship God in Spirit and in Truth. It is incorporated under the state laws of Indiana.

Since the beginning of this church several evangelistic services have been held. Rev. and Mrs. Allen C. Amstutz have conducted these and all other services since the church had its origin.

### **Church of the Nazarene of Angola**

In 1937 the Church of the Nazarene had its beginning as a mission. The organization of this



mission was completed under the leadership of the Northern Indiana (now Northeastern Indiana) District of the Church of the Nazarene in 1939. After the church was organized and the lot at the corner of Elizabeth and Park Streets was purchased, the group of worshippers met at several temporary locations. In September of 1943 a church basement was completed; the congregation began to meet there. Seven years later the superstructure of the building was built; and the congregation began to occupy that in February of the next year (1951).

A list of the pastors who have served this church is as follows:

Rev. Vance Davison .....	1937-1938
Rev. C. H. Templin .....	1939-1943
Rev. R. E. Gillette .....	1943-1947
Rev. H. W. Spencer .....	1947-1951
Rev. Carl E. Greek .....	1951-1954
Rev. Robert E. James .....	1954-

#### **Holy Family Episcopal Church of Angola**

Holy Family Episcopal Church was started in November, 1951, by Rev. Maxwell Brown of Coldwater, Michigan. It was started as a service to Episcopalian Students in Tri-State College. Church worship was held Sunday evenings in the Student's Activities Building until the summer of the next year. The following autumn, after classes had resumed, the group moved to the hall above the Angola Fire Department; morning worship services were then begun there. When the work showed evidences of meeting a real need to the Episcopalian and Anglican Students as well as to other Episcopalians in Steuben County, a house was purchased at 308 West Park street. This was fitted up as a chapel and parish house. This building is the present home of the church. The Rev. Maxwell Brown, who instigated the formation of the church, is still serving as minister there. Today services are held each Sunday at 11:45 A. M. Sunday School is at 11:00 A. M.

#### **Saint Anthony's Catholic Church**

Before the Catholic Church was built in Angola, Mass was held first in a shoe store and later in the high school auditorium. Because of the difficulty of retaining a place of worship, however, a residence was bought at 704 East Maumee Street in the year 1924. The reconditioning of this building for church purposes was not completed until two years later. The Catholic

people of Angola and vicinity were serviced by the pastor of Saint Michael's Church at Waterloo, Indiana. The first priest and pastor of the Catholic Church at 704 East Maumee was the Rev. Charles Scholl of Waterloo. The Franciscan Fathers came to Angola to establish a Novitiate House for the candidates of the Order. The Most Rev. Bishop then also charged the Franciscan Fathers with the care of Saint Rita's Catholic Parish. The first Church was then named Saint Rita's Church. The first Franciscan pastor to take charge was the Rev. Clement Orth, who served from 1931 until 1936. He was succeeded by the Rev. Andrew Maas until 1939. Then Father Ignatius Hanley was appointed Pastor. In the summer of 1940 Father Hanley began preparations for the erection of a new church adjoining the Novitiate property. The church was finished in 1941; and in May 1941, the church was dedicated by his Excellency, the Most Reverend Bishop John F. Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne. At this time Bishop Noll approved the changing of the name of the church from Saint Rita's to Saint Anthony's Catholic Church.

Brother Hanley served as pastor from 1939 to 1945. Thereafter the Rev. Edwin Borntraeger was assigned as pastor and remained in that capacity until 1948. In that year the Rev. Andrew Maas was appointed pastor and still serves the church in that position.

In 1951 a proposal for a separate parish house was made to the Most Reverend Bishop by the Very Reverend Father Provincial of Our Lady of Consolation Province. The Most Reverend Bishop gave his approbation November 3, 1951. Subsequently the rectory was purchased November 4, 1951. Possession of the Parish house, located at 715 West Maumee, took place November 6, 1951. The first resident pastor at this address is the Present Father Andrew Maas.

#### **Angola Seventh Day Adventist Church**

The first Seventh Day Adventist church dedicated to Christian work in Steuben County was erected in the summer of 1938. It now stands where it was first erected—on the corner of West Broad and North West Streets in Angola, Indiana. It is of modest appearance, being constructed of second-hand material, for the most part. Two abandoned brick school houses were purchased—the Old Sand Hill School and one known as the Stroh School. These were dismantled and rebuilt into the present attractive church

home by the faithful members, consisting of less than a dozen at that time. The group has, in the meantime, more than doubled its membership and has added many improvements to the building.

The earliest appearance of the work of the Seventh Day Adventists in Steuben County has been hard to trace. The earliest appearance of this work seems to have been in Salem Township; and the first believer was a Mrs. Lydia Messenger Bent, who resided with her son, Joe Locke, one mile west of Salem Center about ninety years ago. Mrs. May Hall, granddaughter of Joe Locke, tells of attending services in the home of her grandfather about the year 1885. One of the earliest members, a much respected and sincere Christian lady, was Mrs. Henry Jackson, of Angola. Mrs. Jackson's faithful service to the church began sometime before 1871 and continued until her death in 1924. During these years the believers met in her home and in the old Levitsburg School House. Among those who met there were the Endress Wigginses, a Mrs. Courtright, Mrs. Frank Fisk and daughter Sadis, a Mr. Wisel, a Mrs. Maxwell, and Charles C. and Mary E. Stevens.

In the early summer of 1923 Elders Fred Wiggins and Robert L. Boothby pitched a tent on a lot back of Hotel Hendry and initiated work on the erection of a church for Seventh Day Adventists in Steuben County. It took twelve years to complete this church.

The first pastor to serve the new church, which was known as the Wayside Chapel, was the founder and builder of the church, Elder William Ellis. He was followed by Elder M. K. Eckenroth, now on the faculty of Washington Theological Seminary. Then a young ministerial student, Elder George E. Vandeman, served for a while. Elder C. W. Pruitt, now of Terre Haute, was with the church for about six years; he in turn was followed by Elder D. E. Caslow. Elder Caslow is now serving as missionary secretary and leader at the conference office in Indianapolis. Elder R. J. Kegley was also pastor for a few months before going to the Bedford Church. Elder J. G. Penner is pastor at the present time.

#### **Fremont Evangelical United Brethren Church**

The Fremont Evangelical United Brethren Church was founded in 1858 through the efforts of M. Alspach and F. Snively. These men were working out of DeKalb County for the Evangeli-

cal Association. The first church building was one purchased from the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1874. Later a new church was built in 1899; it was located just south of the old building. In the beginning five preaching points known as East Fremont, South Fremont, Fremont, East Gilead, and Bethel—the latter two in Michigan—constituted the circuit of which this church was one point. Fremont and East Gilead remain today.

B. V. Wade, D. C. Ostroth, C. B. Stroh, and E. G. Johnson entered the ministry from this church. D. C. Ostroth later became a Conference Superintendent of the Michigan Conference of the Evangelical Church.

Before 1946 this Fremont Church was known simply as the Evangelical Church; but that year brought the merging of the Evangelical Church with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Henceforth the church was a part of the denomination known as the Evangelical United Brethren, which has its headquarters in Dayton, Ohio.

Pastors of this church from its beginning are as follows:

M. Alspach and G. Hartle, 1858  
Gneisel, 1858 to ?  
S. Copley, 1867  
D. C. Rohland and B. F. Wade, 1868  
B. F. Wade and J. Rood, 1868  
C. S. Brown and J. Rood, 1870  
D. S. Brown and D. C. Rohland, 1871  
C. Thomas, 1872  
E. K. DeWitt, 1873  
E. B. Miller, 1874  
R. Riegel, 1876  
J. A. Frye, 1877.  
C. S. Brown, 1879-82  
J. Drinkwater, 1882  
Washington White, 1883 (six months)  
C. S. Brown, 1883 (six months)  
D. P. Rumberger, 1884-86  
H. T. Strauch, 1886-87  
J. D. Baker, 1887-88  
J. C. Dietrick, 1888-89  
J. Schmaus, 1889-91  
C. S. Brown, 1891-92  
Noah Frye, 1892-95  
A. M. Haddis, 1895-97  
A. Ostroth, 1897-1901  
W. H. Wagner, 1901-03  
E. M. Renner, 1903-06  
Warren Brown, 1906-08



Charles Richards, 1908-13  
 G. Raduchel, 1913-15  
 O. P. Schleicher, 1915-19  
 O. N. Braun, 1919-24  
 W. T. Bandeen, 1924-27  
 S. P. Kirn, 1927-29  
 A. Ostroth, 1929-30  
 L. E. Manore, 1930-33  
 A. D. Burch, 1933-41  
 John S. Clayton, 1941-43  
 Seward Walton, 1943-47  
 C. J. Litchfield, 1947-52  
 Allen J. Lewis, 1952-

### **Pleasant Lake Baptist Church**

Among the early settlers of Steuben County were many Baptists. Embryo churches were formed in almost every township but they have either gone out of existence or have united at some central point to form the present existing churches. It was in the latter way that Pleasant Lake Baptist Church was organized.

On April 13, 1850, six brothers and sisters met in an old schoolhouse east of Pleasant Lake resolving to unite as constituent members of a regular Baptist Church. The following names were recorded at that time: J. B. Meserve, Mary Meserve, Sidney Person, Polly Person, Russel Hendrickson, Hannah Hendrickson, Daniel Rowell, Nancy Rowell, Justin Darling, Rhoda Darling, Lemuel Colton, and Matilda Colton.

J. Byron became the first pastor and during the first half of the centennial of the church the following pastors served: Orange Crane, William Conley, William Lacey, W. U. Welker, T. G. Briggs, S. B. Ward, R. P. Jones, C. A. McMains, H. J. Finch, H. A. McConnell, J. P. Green, I. J. Bicknell, Hartwell Churchill, and S. L. Roberts.

In 1880 a new church was erected. Deacon Colton was clerk at that time—his term extended from 1865 to 1884. He was followed by Mrs. John Crampton, who served until failing health caused her to resign. Reverend P. J. Ward was the first resident pastor. The church made its first contribution to missions on June 26, 1883. The parsonage was presented to the church in 1885 by Mrs. Rhoda Darling. At that time the church membership numbered seventy-six. J. P. Green organized the first young people's society. Reverend Roberts was ordained during his pastorate.

On June 5, 1900, the semi-centennial of the church was celebrated. Mrs. Sarah Lacey, widow of Rev William Lacey and oldest living member of the church at that time, led the devotional meeting at 2:30; the history of the church was read by S. L. Roberts; a history of the Sunday School was read by L. I. Matson, and an account of the Young People's Union was read by Luna Mason. At the evening services, the Rev. L. L. Henson of Fort Wayne preached the anniversary sermon to a large congregation of members, visitors, and delegates to the Northeastern Indiana Baptist Association, which was held with the church on June 6 and 7.

Rev. S. L. Roberts closed his pastorate June 3, 1900, and was followed by Rev. J. M. Kendall, who served one year. Rev. Fry became pastor in 1902, serving until 1904. Rev. Roberts again became pastor in 1904 and remained with the church until 1909. Rev. C. F. Dame then took his place, serving until 1911. After Rev. Dame came Rev. Thurston W. Gibbs, who served one year. The next pastor was Rev. Walfred Lindstrom, who began his ministry in November of 1913. A new parsonage was erected and a men's brotherhood was organized. At the same time a paper, "The Country Church Life," was edited. E. M. Rhoades served from 1916 to 1918. Then Rev. E. A. Kelford became pastor and served until 1923. The church invited Dr. Gunn of Fort Wayne to assist in revival meetings in January of 1923.

Rev. Isham Ferris was invited to become pastor in 1924; he served one year. The church then called Rev. N. M. Bodenhorn, who became pastor in 1926. Rev. Bodenhorn resigned April 1, 1928; and Dr. Gunn was called. He served until 1929. The summer of 1929 saw the erection of a tabernacle east of the school house. The Baptist and United Brethren congregations combined forces in this venture. Dr. Gunn conducted the meetings in this tabernacle during the first weeks.

Rev. O. B. Sarber served one year and was followed by Rev. W. E. Maners in 1931. Rev. Russell M. Brayton accepted a call on March 15, 1942. The church year was changed from October to April—April 30 was determined as the closing date for the church year. A young people's society for the tabernacle was organized at this time, also.

Former pastors still living are E. M. Rhoades, E. A. Kelford, Isham Ferris, N. M. Bodenhorn, W. E. Maners, and Dr. John Gunn.

### Mount Zion and Pleasant Lake Evangelical United Brethren Churches

The Evangelical United Brethren Church as such resulted from the union of two Protestant denominations—the United Brethren in Christ and the Evangelical Church. Both of these denominations had their origin in eastern Pennsylvania about 1800. The early ministers traveled by horseback and preached mostly in schools and in the homes of German settlers. In the early nineteenth century these pioneers worked their ways through the wilderness into many of the new villages of the middle-west.

About 1850, ministers of the North Ohio Conference of the United Brethren Church came to Steuben County, preaching wherever there was an opportunity. Often there were many preaching places on the circuit, which then included the Tri-State area. One of the churches on that circuit was the Angola Church, which began about 1890 in a school house about four miles east of Angola. Later the congregation moved to the city of Angola, where they bought the old Congregational Church building on East Maumee. Here they worshipped for many years until the congregation was discontinued about 1920.

Another of the churches on the circuit was the Pleasant View Church, which began services about 1855 and proceeded to erect a building on section eleven in Jackson Township in 1877. This church also discontinued services about 1920.

In the summer of 1859 Rev. H. W. Cherry organized the Sugar Grove Circuit of the North Ohio Conference, which included all of the United Brethren Churches in Steuben County. The Mount Zion Church—a frame church built in Steuben Township on section eight near Golden Lake, was established in 1865. According to the original deed the land for the church was sold on August 22, 1865, by Henry and Mary Ritter to the trustees, Phillip Ritter, Jonas Mountz, Martin V. Gain, and their successors. In 1879 the North Ohio Conference was held in that church; Bishop J. Dickson presided. In 1903 the church building was moved across the road to its present location; it was improved and rededicated at that time.

On December 3, 1896, the Women of the Mount Zion Church organized a Ladies Aid Society with the following charter members: Mrs. John Deller, Mrs. Pheoba Harpham, Mrs. Emma Mountz, Mrs. Kate Deller, Mrs. Jake Hoyer, Mrs. Jonas Mountz,

Mrs. Anna Deller, Mrs. Nettie Sunday, Mrs. Dora Sunday, Mrs. Susie Mountz, Mrs. Cora Crowl, Miss Iva Deller, Mrs. Ella Greeno, Mrs. Kate Saul, and Mrs. Letha Bumpus.

The land for the burying ground near the Mount Zion Church was sold by Henry and Mary Ritter, John Harpester, and their successors—on June 29, 1872.

The Pleasant Lake Church began in 1872 as a Sunday School in the home of Rev. John T. Ransburg above a meat market in Pleasant Lake. Charter members were Rev. John T. and Elizabeth Ransburg, A. T. and Julia Clay, George and Mrs. Oberlin, Daniel and Sarah VanWye, Levi and Belle Weaver, Joseph and Olivia Goodwin. The congregation grew until it became necessary to hold services in a larger place. The Universalist Church building in the east end of Pleasant Lake was used until 1891, when the present frame building was erected. Five years later a frame parsonage was built next to the church. At the present time the Pleasant Lake Church has an active Women's Society of World Service and a Ladies Aid Society.

The Mount Zion and Pleasant Lake Churches belonged to the St. Joseph Conference in Indiana for over fifty years before becoming members of the Indiana Conference North in 1951. Pastors who have served the Mount Zion Church alone are H. W. Cherry, M. Morthland, John Johnson, R. T. Martin, J. Brown, S. Redmon, J. S. Tedrow, and A. E. Gaff.

Pastors who have served the Mount Zion and Pleasant Lake Churches are: John T. Ransburg, C. M. Eberly, S. O. Fink, J. D. Brosy, Daniel Tedrow, O. E. Knepp, A. F. McCloe, J. S. Smith, W. H. Fetro, J. C. Albright, J. D. Coverstone, J. D. Davis, L. A. Stangel, M. H. Hibbs, L. W. Love, H. W. Franklin, F. B. Parker, G. H. Trinkle, D. D. Corl, E. C. Reidenbach, J. F. Bright, A. H. Sholty, Cecil R. Smith, Ray G. Upson, Lynn Henry, Carl Priest, and the present pastor (1954) Raleigh C. Walker.

### Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints had its origin in 1820; but its present organization was set up in 1860. Thirteen years previous to this latter date this church had undergone a great division. Brigham Young led one



faction to Salt Lake City, Utah, where he established the Mormon religion while Joseph Smith headed the other faction in Illinois. This mid-western faction soon became known as the Re-organized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. After 1870 many missionaries of the Re-organization began to hold services in the area around Clear Lake, Indiana; namely, in Rathburn, Brown, and Harrison school houses.

In the year 1877 Elders William Kelley and Columbus Scott met with a group of members on the 30th day of December to organize the Clear Lake Branch of the Church. Shortly following this organization Peter Smith and G. A. Smith donated land on which to build a house of worship. Not very long after this land was acquired, a building was purchased from the Covenanter Church which stood near the Ray Cemetery. This building was moved to its present location.

The first branch president (pastor) of this church—A. J. Smith—was followed by Jonathan Emrick, G. A. Smith, O. H. Storey, William Shaub, and Carl Smith. The church grew in membership until in the early 1920's the membership numbered one hundred fifty and was supporting missions at South Scott, and Flint, Indiana, and at Halls Corner, Michigan.

A resolution to be entered at the General Conference of 1925 brought dissension among the members. On October 15, 1926, a meeting was called to organize the branch at the home of Sister Ella Davis. On August 28, 1927, Elder George Cassel became the branch president and continued his faithful ministry until 1939. In 1940 Elder Wilford McMurray of Ray, Indiana, was elected branch president and served for six years. The church then entered a rejuvenation period which resulted in an upsurge in its membership.

Elder Clair Binkley served as branch president from 1946 to 1949, at which time Elder Arthur Middleton was elected to that position. Elder Middleton is serving in that capacity today. He also serves the church as district president of the Northern Indiana District.

#### **Helmer Church of the Nazarene**

The building in which the people of the Helmer Church of the Nazarene worship was formerly the property of the Church of God, originally called the Pleasant Ridge Church of God. At first that congregation had worshipped in a building which stood on the east side of highway

327—just north of Helmer. But in 1894 Syrus Helmer gave a grant of land in Helmer to the Church of God for as long as it would be used for church purposes. The Pleasant Ridge Congregation built a new building on this land in 1894.

The Church of God congregation discontinued using this building in 1945; and in 1948 the Church of the Nazarene rented the building and began holding services there. In the fall of 1952 that church purchased the building and redecorated the interior. It has remained the place of worship for the Church of the Nazarene congregation to the present time.

#### **Ashley Church of God**

The Ashley Church of God was organized by Rev. G. C. Asbury. He initiated work in the church in 1934. The pastors since Rev. Asbury have been Rev. and Mrs. James Elston, Rev. Lewis Klein, Rev. John Call, and Rev. Vern M. Noll. Rev. Noll is currently serving as pastor for this church.

The church is now located one block north of East Main Street in Ashley. One of the things of primary importance to the congregation of the Ashley Church of God at the present time is its building fund. Plans have been made for building a new church on East Main Street in this city. It is possible that work will begin in the fall of 1954.

#### **Jamestown Community Church**

On June 4, 1872, in the village of Jamestown, Indiana, which is located on the west side of Lake George, a small group of men and women met to organize a church. The exact place of this meeting is not known; presumably it was a school-house. The names of the people who attended this meeting are as follows: Eben McAlister, Basha McAlister, Gustavus Cross, Harriet Cross, John Miller, Sally Miller, Emeline Noble, Elira Wright, and Hannah Archer.

The church was organized according to the plan of the Congregational Church. It was to be known as the Jamestown Church of Christ. Rev. C. Kidder helped to organize it and apparently acted as pastor until 1874, when Rev. L. P. Rose was called. When the church was organized, a constitution and articles of covenant were written and adopted between church and members.

On February 8, 1873, the constitution was revised slightly and a document called, "Organic

Principles" was added. At this time the name of the church was changed to the First Congregational Church of Jamestown.

On January 4, 1878, plans were made for the construction of a brick and stone church. The building committee was comprised of E. P. McAlister, William Harding, Norton Wilder, and Gustavus Cross. T. B. Terry was engaged to build the church. When completed this church was a substantial red brick structure with white trim. High up in its spire hung a large bell which could be heard for miles around. The church was finished and dedicated on January 8, 1879.

In April, 1881 an application was made to the Congregational Building Society of New York for a loan to help pay off the indebtedness incurred in building the church. It required more than thirty years to repay this loan; and in an effort to terminate this loan and to be supplied with a pastor the congregation turned itself over to the Methodist denomination. (This occurred about 1910.) A minister was supplied for an afternoon service and a plan was worked out whereby the loan could be paid. During this period Rev. Dougherty of Fremont, Indiana, conducted Sunday afternoon services. Later Frank Hickman did the same thing. After a few years the church was returned to the Congregational denomination.

The early record of the church appears to be intact and complete up to April 10, 1899. The records from that date until December 1922, were lost in a fire which destroyed the home of Mrs. Russ Hershey, church secretary at that time.

Early in the summer of 1924, the original church was struck by lightning and was completely destroyed by fire. For several years services were held at the Jamestown schoolhouse. On August 7, 1930, a meeting was called to decide about the advisability of buying a vacant church building north of Fremont. This building was purchased and moved to Jamestown, where it was placed upon the site of the former church.

This new church was completed and dedicated in September, 1931. At this time the church was reorganized under the name "Jamestown Community Church." It has remained under that name to the present time and has been interdenominational since its reorganization.

### The Block Church of Salem Center

The first Block Church was built by the Methodists in 1841. It was constructed of black walnut and poplar. The logs were hewed to about sixteen inches square—hence, the name Block Church. The church faced the west and stood east of the location of the present building. Rev. Griffith organized the Methodist Church in 1839 with the following people as charter members: Robert Bell, Maria Bell, Benjamin Cromwell, Mary Butler, Miss Susan Bell, Eli M. Teal and wife, and Edward Hammond and wife.

The Presbyterian society was organized by O. Littlefield at the home of John Wilson in 1839. Mr. Wilson had held meetings in his cabin for three years previous and had organized the first Sunday School in the township. The charter members of the Presbyterian society were as follows: Moses S. Parsell, Hannah Parsell, John Wilson, Dinah Wilson, Maria Moore, Andrew Harvey Wilson, Mrs. Fanny Butler, Mrs. Malita Butler, John Brown, Mrs. Betsy Brown, Mary Ann Wilson, Margaret Ann Wilson, and Elizabeth Wilson.

Mr. John N. Ousterhout bought this old Block Building for the sum of ten dollars and moved it to his farm a mile away and used it for a dwelling house for nearly thirty years. It was only 25 years ago that this building was torn down.

These two societies—the Methodist and the Presbyterian—worshipped in the schoolhouse and in the church together until the church was vacated in 1857. The Presbyterians then built a building known as the Singing Hall a little southeast of the cemetery across the road from the church. There the two societies worshipped until the building was destroyed by fire. In 1867 the Methodists erected a new building at Salem Center, a mile and a half south. Then the Presbyterians and United Brethren built the present structure on land given by Avery Emerson; but when there was a division in the latter society the building was given entirely into the control of the Presbyterians.

In 1928 the Presbyterians vacated the building and bought the Methodist church at Salem Center, with the idea of uniting both congregations, for it was conceded that one strong church in a neighborhood is better than two weak ones. The spot has seen many changes—first it was an Indian cornfield; then it was the location of a



cabin and orchard; then the Singing Hall had its home there.

### **The Salem Center Presbyterian Church**

The following "Historical Note" prepared by Dr. John P. Hale, Synodical Superintendent of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in Indiana was incorporated in the minutes of the Salem Center Presbyterian Sessional Record, June, 1915. Most of the data recorded in this "Historical Note" was found in the Sessional Record, begun when the church was organized:

"The Presbyterian Church of Salem Center was organized on the tenth day of August, 1839 by The Rev. A. Littlefield, in the house of John Wilson. The following nine persons constituted the organization: Moses S. Parsell, Hannah (Mrs. M. S.) Parsell, John Wilson, Dina (Mrs. John) Wilson, Andrew Harvey Wilson, Maria Moore, Fannie (Mrs. Jesse) Butler, Matilda (Mrs. Lorain) Butler and Mrs. Betsy Brown.

Mr. Moses S. Parsell and John Wilson were chosen Elders. They were ordained November 30th, following, when the organization of the church was completed and the following additional members were received: George Brown, Miss Mary Jane Wilson, Miss Catharine McKinlay, Miss Margaret Ann Wilson, and Miss Elizabeth C. Wilson.

The congregation worshipped in the school house, sharing the building with the Methodist Church which was organized in the same year. The first church building was erected on the lot where the cemetery now stands, a mile and a half North of Salem Center. It was erected in 1841 or '42 of poplar and walnut logs hewn flat and put together with excellent workmanship. It is said the workmen began cutting the trees on Monday morning and the building was dedicated on the next Sunday.

The seats were made of hewn planks placed on rail horses. An aisle ran through the center of the room. There were six large seats with backs, made by a carpenter. (These were called the aristocratic seats.) Three windows on each side and one in the back let in the light. This building was called the Old Block Church.

The Block Church was sold about 1857, and was moved to the road next east where it was used by the John N. Ousterhout family for a dwelling. A building known as the Singing Hall was erected

in 1856 across the way, south of the burying ground and was occupied by the Presbyterians and the Methodists for some years.

The Methodists proposing to build their own church at Salem Center, the Presbyterians in connection with the United Brethren built the present frame structure, directly across from the cemetery to the west, on a plot of ground deeded to the Presbyterians for religious uses by Avery Jr. and Mrs. Emerson. This building was erected in 1868. The United Brethren used this house conjointly with the Presbyterians until they erected their own building in 1898, a mile and a half to the north.

In 1917 the church joined with the Presbyterian Church at Waterloo in a call to Rev. John E. Jones of Schneider, Indiana. He began his pastorate on September 1st of that year but remained only until June 1918, when he resigned to become a Y. M. C. A. secretary with the American Forces in France. He returned from France in August 1919, and upon invitation resumed his pastorate at Salem Center. With the pastor and congregation cooperating, the church grew in size and effectiveness. On November 1, 1924, the pastor again resigned to take up the work at Farmersburg, Indiana. While he ministered at Farmersburg the Methodist Church at Salem withdrew from the community, leaving the parish to the Presbyterians, who purchased their building and after the church was redecorated, moved into it. In the meantime a call was given Rev. John E. Jones to return and take up the work for the third time. He, with his wife, returned to Salem, September 1928, and in December of that year moved into the manse which the congregation had purchased from Jeanette and Sarah Caris and enlarged and remodeled into a modern dwelling. The following February the manse was dedicated with appropriate services.

The church continued to grow in membership and services to the people of the neighborhood. However, it was realized that the one-room building was very inadequate to house the organizations of the church, so the officers rented the hall above the grocery store and used it for Sunday School and other purposes for a number of years. The officers bought the unused, two story structure owned by the Angola I. O. O. F., which was located only two hundred feet from the church. By the cooperative efforts of the members and friends

of the church, the building was repaired, re-modeled, and fitted for religious and social purposes. The second story was converted into church school rooms for the children, while the first floor was fitted for a dining room, kitchen, and recreation hall. In January of 1941 the building was set aside for religious and social purposes with a dedicatory service. This service consisted of a sermon by Dr. Alexander Sharp, Jr., Synodical superintendent of Home missions. Some time later the name Westminster House was given to the building.

On Sunday, August 6, 1939, a large crowd of people gathered to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the Salem Presbyterian Church. Dr. H. B. Hostetter of Indianapolis delivered the sermon. A basket dinner was served on the church lawn. A program of unusual interest followed. It consisted of a reading of the history of the organization of the church and the events during the hundred years, together with six episodes taken from the history. Those taking part were all costumed in the clothes worn at that time. The platform was arranged with the furniture of that period to resemble the living room of the John Wilson home in which the church was organized. The cast of characters was—

Rev. A. Littlefield—Seymour Butler, a great-great-grandson of Fannie Butler.

John Wilson—James Cool, a great-great-grandson of Fannie Butler.

Dinah Wilson—Dorothy DeGraw.

Moses S. Parsell—Max Greeno, a great-great-grandson of Moses Parsell.

Hannah Parsell—Marie Butler, a great-great-grand-daughter of Fannie Butler.

Mrs. Fannie Butler—Dora Cool, a great-great-granddaughter of Fannie Butler.

Elizabeth Wilson—Anna Rose Butler, a great-great-granddaughter of Fannie Butler.

Mary Jane Wilson—Lorene Butler, a great-great-granddaughter of Fannie Butler.

Margaret Ann Wilson—Gene Alice Greeno, a great-great-granddaughter of Moses and Hannah Parsell.

Maria Moore—Laura Milleman.

Malita Butler—Betty Lou Lonsbury.

George Brown, Jr.—Carleton Milleman.

Elizabeth Parsell—(daughter of Moses and Hannah Parsell)

Mrs. Earl Mills of Fort Wayne sang in the dedication service, "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings." Singing-school Master—Harold Komp of Detroit, the great-great-grandson of Fannie Butler.

Others taking part in the program were John Cool, Dean Butler, Rolo Halsey, Eva Tritch, Willis Breese, June Weicht and Erma Wilson.

The one hundred and tenth anniversary was celebrated with a less elaborate program on August 7, 1949. Dr. Ralph Browns, professor of Philosophy at the Illinois Wesleyan University, was the guest speaker. Mrs. Merle Loucks and Charles Parker sang a duet. A Historical sketch was read by the pastor. Greetings were offered by Rev. Glenn Utterback, pastor of the Angola Congregational Church and president of the Steuben County Ministerial Association, and by Dr. William J. Ratz, Stated Clerk of the Fort Wayne Presbytery.

Since the reorganization the church has made a consistent growth in membership. From twenty-two people in good standing, it has increased to one hundred and forty-five.

The church functions through several subordinate organizations; the Women's Society of two groups: the Ladies Aid Society which has been organized for over fifty years; the Women's Missionary Society, organized in 1921, which has maintained interest in the missionary activities of the Presbyterian Church at home and abroad; the Men's Club; the Mother's Club; the Westminster Fellowship for young people; and the Church School.

In the one hundred and fifteen years of its history the church has been served by the following ministers, many of them as stated supplies: O. Littlefield, Christopher Corey, M. Thompson, Mr. Helm, Mr. O. Chapin, Mr. Martin, John Kelland, Jacob Patch, Mr. Kidder (Methodist), S. P. Bizzel, Robert D. McCarthy, Mr. Haliday, H. H. Lipes, F. F. Christine, H. A. Sawyer, R. S. Goodman, Mr. Ablard, M. M. Lawson, Mr. Prentice, Charles West, J. P. Hawkins, E. Jackson, Mr. Scott, Mr. Chapman, Howard Lucas, H. F. Craven, and John E. Jones.

The following are the names of those who have served as Elders according to the records available: John Wilson, Moses S. Parsell, George Brown, John C. Bodley, Ralph E. Herbert, John D. Emerson, James Wilson, L. N. Bodley, Orson Woodford, Newell Wilson, Frank Shaver, Hazlett Wilson, James H. Woodford, John Parsell, E. A.



Emerson, Fred Komp, Samuel Allen, Selwyn Butler, Eshu Tritch, James Emerson, Seymour Butler, Donald C. Heffley, Ned Emerson, Ralph Leas, Mrs. Walter Hanna, Mrs. Maynard Holden, Henry Baillie.

The following are the elders now serving on the church session: O. C. Amerman, Leonard Halsey, Walter McLaughlin, Samuel Greeno, Rolo Halsey, John C. Clark, Mrs. George Butler, Mrs. Grover Cool.

The present board of trustees consists of: Kenyon Boots, Robert Clark, Vern Weicht, Carol Holden, Earl Barnes, Earl Ringler, Dale Hughes, Edwin Weimer, Walter Hanna.

President of the Women's Society

..... Mrs. John C. Clark

President of the Men's Club ..... Carol Holden

President of the Westminster Fellowship

..... Beth Emerson

President of the Mothers' Club, Mrs. Carol Holden

Supt. of Church School ..... Gladys Leas

Supt. of Jr. Church School ..... Mrs. John E. Jones

Directors of Choir ..... Mrs. Dick Courtright

..... Mrs. John Clark

Organist ..... Mrs. John Clark

Ass't. Organist ..... Patricia Hoyer

Editor's Note: The "Block Church" referred to in this Chapter, was destroyed by fire September 24, 1954.

### The Clear Lake Baptist Church

The Clear Lake Baptist Church was organized July 2nd, 1864, at a meeting held at the little schoolhouse, which was located three-fourths of a mile east of Clear Lake. This meeting was called to order by Elder W. H. Welker and was attended by a goodly number of the brethren and sisters.

Articles of faith and a constitution were adopted and Cyrus Handy was elected Church Clerk. Among the early members were: Samuel Hamer, George Handy, Cyrus Handy, John Whaley, Wm. H. Welker, Elder B. McLouth and Elder T. Burroughs.

The schoolhouse was used as a meeting place until about 1871-2, when the present church building was erected and located on a lot just east of the first schoolhouse of the North district. (The schoolhouse was erected in 1846).

The funds for building the church were raised by a subscription list which contains the names of nearly all of the early settlers of the township.

The Church was built by Strunk Brothers, who were the builders of many of the Churches of this Tri-State section of the country. The estimated cost of the church building was \$2,500.00. This building is in a good state of repair and is serving this location as a community church, holding regular services weekly.

A new constitution was adopted about 1946, so now this might be called a Free Will Baptist Church and better classed to serve as a union church.

A new parsonage was erected in 1946-7 on the old schoolhouse lot, this lot being given to the church by Dr. and Mrs. O. I. Laird, and the greater amount of the funds for building the parsonage was donated by Frederick C. Lowery, in memory of Mrs. Eva Phillips Lowery, who attended this church in the late 1880's and was a school teacher in this township.



### SUNRISE

#### An Easter Message

*By the Honorable*

*Clyde C. Carlin*

I wish that you'd go back with me to when the world was young, before the pyramids, before the Ten Commandments, before Abraham, back to the very dawn of history, to the first written book of all the ages, back to Job, the patriarch of Uz.

We know nothing of his life save what is written in the twenty pages of his book. He was rich. He was powerful. He was the greatest of all the men of the East. His power slipped. His wealth vanished. His health broke. All he had was gone. His friends tried to comfort him. Out of his pain and misery he asks them the age-old question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" His friends are silent. They dare not answer. They could not tell. That eternal question ever since has plagued the hearts and souls of men. Philosopher, scientist, poet, priest in turn have tried to solve the riddle of the ages.

Plato, the master philosopher, sought in vain the answer. Does the soul survive and the body perish? Is its relation to the body that of music to the harp, lost forever when the harp is gone; or like the rower to the boat, the rower living though

the boat is lost? With all his mighty intellect he failed. Philosophy can never pierce Death's bleak, impenetrable wall.

Science brings light into a darkened world. It floods the gloom of Night with great white ways snatched from the very thunderbolts of Heaven. It grasps the power of stream and tide and water-fall. It flashes light and sound and pictures round the world. It strikes the cruel age-old load of drudgery from men and women's backs and showers upon the poorest, luxuries unknown to kings and queens a hundred years ago. But . . . Will he live again? And haughty Science bows its head and says, "No human eye can ever pierce the gloomy walls of DEATH and tell what lies beyond."

The common man knows not. He "hopeless lays his dead away," uncheered by any word from Science or Philosophy.

The poet sings in vain. With Hamlet he tells of the "undiscovered country, from whose bourn no traveler returns."

*"That awful gulf no mortal e'er repassed  
To tell what's doing on the other side."*

Prophet, priest, and seer of every age and faith have sought in vain the answer to this riddle. Buddha, Zoroaster, Confucius, Mahomet, Egyptian, Persian, Hindu, Greek, Arab, Roman, Jew, in turn present their soberest thought. They each say, "Yes, I believe"; but none can say, "I know!"

To the Jew alone of all the races of the earth was any revelation given. At divers times and in sundry places to this chosen people came prophet, priest, and seer proclaiming a "mighty Prince to come." The Jew in every walk of life, rejoicing in the splendor of the temple or downcast in the homesickness of exile, looked steadily forward to the coming of great David's greater son. Each Jewish woman prayed that she might be the mother of this child of whom the prophets told should "rule my people Israel."

Clearer with each succeeding generation came the prophecies, three hundred and thirteen in all, some telling of a king, a prince, a governor, his name to be "Wonderful, Counsellor, \* \* \* the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Of the increase of his government there should be no end. And yet he was to be brought as a lamb to the slaughter, to be wounded for our transgressions, to be bruised for our iniquities, to make his grave with the wicked and with the rich in his death.

These diverse, discordant prophecies no Jew could understand. And then prophecy ceased. Three hundred years of silence! And the Jew waited on.

\* \* \*

Nineteen centuries ago in Bethlehem, the town of prophecy, a Jewish babe was born. The rapturous music of the angels singing "Glory to God in the Highest" to the shepherds waiting on the Judean hills heralded his birth.

His intimates were few, twelve common men, seventy more or less regular followers, and a little band of women. Those on whom he worked his miracles of healing were singularly unappreciative. All that remains of his spoken words is printed on less than thirty pages. And yet those words transformed the minds and hearts of men. He was the greatest teacher this world ever knew. Not a man of the hour, he was the man of the ages. He did not blindly grasp for truth. He was truth itself. He revolutionized the world. He transformed it from vicious, sodden cruelty and despair to peace and trust and helpfulness. He changed the hearts of men. His teachings built our hospitals, endowed our colleges, drove disease from its lair, mitigated suffering, and brought cheer and joy and happiness to a disheartened world.

An Eastern legend tells of a fountain with such wondrous power that a spring gushed forth wherever a drop of water fell upon the desert sand. A traveler with a vial of this water could safely go through any desert. He took with him the secret of unfailing springs.

*"Wild and fanciful the legend, yet may not  
meanings high*

*Visions of better things to come within its shadows lie,*

*Type of a higher fountain to mortals now unsealed*

*The full and free salvation in Christ, our Lord, revealed.*

*Beneath the Cross those waters rise, and he who finds them there*

*All through the wilderness of life the living stream may bear,*

*And blessings follow in his path until where'er he goes*

*The moral wastes begin to bloom and blossom as the rose."*

His life exactly fit the prophecies. Of none save Him can this be said. And yet . . . If a man



die . . . ? And the eternal question plagues us once again. The life, the miracles, the teachings of this Son of Man are but beautiful etchings, a glorified code of ethics, an unattainable ideal, unless he rose, yes, *literally* rose, from the dead. If he did thus rise, he brought light and immortality to life. If he did, he abolished death. If he did, we can exclaim with a surety denied to Job, "I know that my Redeemer liveth." If he did not, our hope is vain; the atheist, the agnostic, the infidel is right. No man can tell. No man can ever know.

The resurrection of the Christ is the most vital, crucial fact in all history. Beside it all else pales into insignificance. If it is so, we know we live again. If not, we perish.

So let us call the witnesses on whose evidence we rely; witnesses, human, yes, but whose testimony makes the living facts stand forth as "clear, as stark, as naked, as imperishable as the rocky crags of Norway or the hungry seas that beat against their base." The crucifixion with its bitter agony was over. The young revolutionist who dared to lift his voice against the power of Jewish ritual and bigotry was dead. The hate of the Sadducees glutted to the full. Caiaphas and the Jewish priesthood triumphant. The disciples, bewildered, scared, had fled. Judas, remorseful, had hanged himself. Peter was in hiding. Only John was there. The mob jeered and railed. The chief priests mocking said, "He saved others, himself he cannot save." The Roman soldiers stood stolidly on guard. A hush fell on the frenzied mob. The last words from the Cross! And then the end! "He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon him. With his stripes we are healed." The hard-boiled Roman centurion in charge of the crucifixion, with some vision, maybe denied to all the rest, exclaimed, "Truly this was the Son of God."

Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, by that strange quirk of human nature that pays homage to the dead denied the living, seek Pilate and beg the body. The time is short. It is almost four o'clock. The grave must be closed at six. Tomorrow is the holy day and it begins at dusk. Tenderly, reverently they take the lifeless body from the cross and carry it to Joseph's own, new tomb. Cut from the solid rock a place some three feet wide and maybe six feet high. On the right, a shelf on which to lay the body. Truly with the rich, for Joseph of Arimathea was wealthy, with the rich in his death.

Swiftly, tenderly they prepare the spices, the aloes, and the myrrh. Deftly they bind the napkin round the head and wind the long strips of linen grave cloths round the body. Exerting their every ounce of strength they roll the great flat stone in place and close the sepulchre. And Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, Salome, Joanna, and the other women stand afar off and see where he is laid. "If a man die, shall he live again?"

Stung by the kindly services of Joseph and Nicodemus, the Jewish leaders seek Pilate. "Sir," they say, "we remember that this deceiver said while he was yet alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come and steal him away and say unto the people, 'He is risen from the dead'; so the last error shall be worse than the first." Pilate says, "You have a watch, go your way; make it as sure as you can." Read your Bible, folks. Let no one tell you this was a Roman guard. Such is not the record. It was the Jewish Temple Guard, loyal to Caiaphas and the Sadducees, bitter, prejudiced, hating even the memory of the young reformer who had been done to death. So they went, this Jewish Guard, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone and setting a watch.

And the hours drag slowly on. Friday night, Saturday, Saturday night. The guards stare grimly at the tomb. No follower of Christ has dared come near. The guards smile. Midnight, "Our watch is over soon." One o'clock, two, three, four, five. It still is dark. Look, the cold gray dawn! What's that? See! The great stone moves! Blind, freezing terror grips the guards. They rush in panic to the temple, shrieking as they run. They tell the chief priests all things they had seen. "The stone is moved. The seals are broken." Then comes the servant of the High Priest and gasps, "He is risen. I saw him. Look! He gave me this linen cloth."

And the priests take counsel with the elders and give money to the guards, saying, "Say ye, 'His disciples came by night and stole him away while we slept.'" And they did as they were taught. But Truth persists in spite of perjured witnesses.

Who first saw the tomb when the guards had fled? In whose home was kept the Passover? The Scriptures do not say. Yet the inference is plain. Some eye-witnesses of the Last Supper, the garden scene, the arrest, the women, the vacant tomb—someone who saw these rugged facts and grasped

their pregnant meaning wrote them down while they still surged white hot on his brain.

This witness tells you of the two feasts in the upper room of the disciples each asking, "Is it I?" of the bitter-sweet of Gethsemane, of the secluded spot where Peter, James, and John were led; and how these three, wearied, slept. The witness hears the patient Master say, "Sleep on." Then comes the mob with swords and staves. Peter, impulsive, draws his sword. Then, that strange passing interlude. A young man, his clothes snatched from him, flees naked into the night.

Who heard and saw all of these things? There's only one who could—John Mark. He was the youth who fled that Thursday night. In his father's house was kept the Passover. (The details of the Jewish trial he later learns from Peter, the Roman trial and the crucifixion from John). Back in his father's home, shrinking, scared, he hears men murmur of the crucifixion. "And Joseph has taken him to his own new tomb. Dead? Gone? This young leader who was to 'redeem my people Israel.'"

And the hours drag slowly on. Friday night, Saturday, Saturday night. Midnight. One o'clock, two, three, four. There keep ringing in his ears the words he heard on Thursday night. "After I am risen, I go before you into Galilee." Hark! The Temple Guard sweeps by. He hears their frenzied shouts of terror as they pass. Something has happened at the tomb. He rushes out. Caution warns him. Fear tries to hold him back, but still he hastens on. Yonder is the tomb. The stone is rolled away. John Mark is the first to see the empty sepulchre; the first to grasp its mighty meaning.

While it is yet dark, Mary Magdalene comes to the tomb. She sees the stone is rolled away. She runs to Peter and John, and, jumping at conclusions, moans, "They have taken away my Lord and I know not where they have laid him." They rush in sorrow to the grave. What indignity has now been heaped upon the dead body of their friend?

And Peter goes into the tomb. He sees the linen grave cloths *lying*, and the napkin that was about his head, not lying with the linen cloths, but wrapped together in a place by itself. Then came in John also. And they saw and believed.

They told me in Sunday School this was a lesson in neatness, that in the most crucial moment in all history the Christ took time to carefully fold up the discarded cloths. I needed the neatness lesson all right, but, oh, how that Sunday School teacher missed the point!

Peter and John saw and believed. Saw what? Believed what? They saw the burial cloths. The word translated "*lying*" means empty, untenanted, deserted.

The owner of a house moves out, leaving it empty, untenanted, deserted. Its outward shape remains the same. The departed owner lives. Believed what? Slowly the minds of John and Peter grasp the great, stupendous fact. No human hand could have unwrapped those long strips of linen cloth, taken away the body, and restored them to the exact position they were in before, empty, untenanted, deserted, each lying in its proper place. The fact of the resurrection is inescapable. Christ, by some unseen power, emerged from out those grave cloths, leaving them untenanted, deserted. The living, many-colored butterfly escapes from its old cocoon, leaving it a dead and empty shell, but shaped exactly as it was before.

An hour before, John Mark had grasped this mighty fact. His mind harks back to Thursday night. He hears again the Master say, "After I am risen I go before you into Galilee."

The women come. He hears them ask, "Who will roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?" Then they see him, this "young man dressed in white," and are afraid. And surging with his joyous truth just learned, Mark calls to them, "Be not afraid. Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth. He is risen. He is not here. Behold the place where they laid him." And he points to the tell-tale cloths. "But go your way. Tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee. There shall ye see him as he said unto you." But the women, scared, had fled. Three men, Mark, John, and Peter, are the first to see the "glory of the coming of the Lord."

A lawyer is fighting for his client's life. The case against him has been adroitly built by perjured evidence. He calls the friendly witnesses on whose testimony he knows he can rely. They know the facts. They tell the honest, candid truth. It seems the case is won. Yet you can never tell. Some stubborn juror may refuse to give their story credit. They and the man accused are friends. But two unfriendly witnesses appear. They take the stand. The facts they tell corroborate and supplement the former testimonial. The case is double-clinched. The most reluctant, hesitating juror now grasps the proven truth. It does prevail in spite of perjured witnesses.



"The disciples stole the body." This was the tale the priests invented. Peter, Mark, and John, a hundred other honest witnesses disprove this ugly charge.

James, the brother of the Christ, was clearly hostile to his claims. He and his other brothers sought to lay hold of him at the very outset of his ministry. They thought he was beside himself. On no occasion did James recognize his deity. To him the prophecies did not portray a Messiah such as he. He paid no heed to the trial, the crucifixion, or the burial. The priests could count on him.

And yet, four words transformed this hostile brother. "He appeared unto James." His life thenceforth is changed. "Is it possible this brother I have scorned is indeed the Messiah?" "It is so. He is risen. I saw him." And James, hostile, sneering, arrogant, changes the whole tenor of his life. Devotedly, honestly, earnestly, humbly, he takes his stand with the disciples he has scorned. He stakes his life upon the fact he saw this brother whom he knew so well, after he was risen from the dead. The priests would have suborned him if they could. They could not silence him. They killed him then to close his mouth, this unfriendly witness whose testimony convinces the most reluctant juror. The early Christians, mindful of his earnest, potent testimony, to tell which had cost him his life, carved upon his monument the words, "He hath been a true witness both to Jew and to Greek that Jesus is Christ."

Three years have passed since Resurrection Morn. And still the battle rages on. The priests still haughtily declare, "The disciples stole the body." The Church exultingly exclaims, "He is risen." Jerusalem is in a turmoil. The priests are desperate. Peter and John are haled before the Sanhedrin and ordered not to speak or teach at all about the name of Jesus. They hurl back the curt reply, "We obey God rather than men."

Then at the close of this three-year period comes Saul of Tarsus to Jerusalem. Rejoicing in his Jewish heritage, glorying in the prophecies of the Messiah who was to sit on David's Throne, educated, zealous, ambitious, talented, he seeks the highest honor that can come to any Jew, a seat in the great Sanhedrin. Disgustedly he hears rumors of this sect which claims that Jesus is the Messiah of prophecy. "What! That convicted felon, whom Pilate crucified! When Messiah comes his name

shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Does that describe the man who died between two thieves?" He hears their horrid claim, "He is risen," and wild with wrath he vows he'll stamp out this accursed heresy though every foul and perjured blasphemer be slain.

Just then a mob drags Stephen to the temple. He hears the witnesses exclaim, "We heard this man say 'Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place.'" Saul does not know they lied. Thus Stephen's life is sworn away. And Saul stands by. He holds the garments of the witnesses while they hurl the stones. Grimly he smiles. "This blasphemer shall die." But in his dying agony he hears the voice of Stephen praying, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge." And saying this, he fell asleep.

Saul, Saul, are those the words of a perjured blasphemer, or of an honest witness, who knew and spoke the truth? and Saul gasps. "Was this Jesus of Nazareth the Messiah? Can it be true he is risen from the dead?" He seeks the priests. "No, no," they say. "The disciples stole the body. Go, ask the Temple Guard." And surging back to hate and frenzy Saul makes havoc of the Church. He enters into every house, haling men and women and committing them to prison. The heresy at Jerusalem seemed squelched. And Saul seeks out the Temple Guard. "Why did you not arrest the disciples when they stole the body?" "We were asleep." "Asleep?" And Saul wonders just how much and what they really knew. But his old hate flares back. Breathing forth threatening and slaughter he seeks the High Priest and gets authority to go to Damascus and bring back bound every man and woman of this accursed way.

A week's journey, one hundred and forty miles, this young zealot and his caravan start for Damascus. Each night his mind is tempest-tossed. "Did the disciples steal the body? The guards say so. How do they know? They slept. Why did not the Chief Priests hunt the body? They say it had been stolen. They could have found it had they only searched. I wish I had been there that first day of the week! But could an imposter pray as Stephen did? I never heard a prayer like that." And, "tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt," Saul drops into a troubled sleep.

They are nearing Damascus now. It is high noon. All morning this battle of conflicting thought ragged in Saul's puzzled brain. "Can it be the guards did not tell the truth? Is that the reason the body

was not found? Can it be true that Jesus rose from the dead as the disciples said? Is this Jesus of Nazareth the promised Messiah?" Torn with this awful thought, kicking against the pricks and goads, he calls to mind the prophecies he knew so well, "The Prince of Peace, the Everlasting Father, Of the increase of his government, no end." And then he gasps, "A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, despised and rejected of men, led as a lamb to the slaughter, openeth not his mouth, make his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death." He was buried in Joseph's tomb! And Saul, the first Jew to grasp in full these discordant prophecies, cries out, "Oh, Stephen, you were right. You saw the risen Christ! The guards lied. The chief priests knew it all the time. The disciples did not steal the body. It was not found because this Jesus of Nazareth is in fact the Messiah, because, yes, because He is risen, yes, as the disciples say, is risen from the dead!" And a blazing light shines forth in the bright Syrian sky. Saul, hostile, arrogant, aggressive; Saul, the persecutor, has at last found out the truth.

If you think this is the last of Saul's study of the facts, you are mistaken. He seeks out Peter, John, and Mark. He talks with James, the earthly brother of Christ, with Thomas, who at first had doubted, with the other disciples, with the women who had seen the tomb on resurrection morn. Three years in Arabia pondering over the prophecies as only his keen, inerrant mind could do, talking with every witness he could find who knew aught about the facts. This hostile witness closes every gap, scatters every hesitating doubt as the mists of morning scatter before the beams of noonday sun.

What of his after life, this grizzled old veteran, who gave up literally everything—ambition, place, power, honor, fame, yes, life itself, for truth? Five times scourged by Jews. Thirty-nine biting, cutting stripes. Thrice beaten with rods, stoned, shipwrecked, everywhere in peril, imprisoned, forsaken . . . "Only Luke is with me."

Saul, Saul. You might have been the greatest member of the Sanhedrin. The outstanding leader of the Jewish race. Do you wish you had? What would you do now were you back on the Damascus road? Hear this witness testify just prior to his martyrdom: "I am ready to be offered. The time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight. I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which

the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day, and not to me only, but also to all those who love his appearing."

No fact in history is so clearly demonstrated as the resurrection. Doubting that, there is nothing left you can believe save what you see yourself. Peter, Mark, and John, the servant of the High Priest, Thomas, Mary Magdalene, the other women, James, the eleven disciples, the five hundred folks in Galilee all saw the risen Christ. What other fact was ever proved by such a cloud of witnesses!

What say the men who knew the Christ?

Pilate: "I find no fault in him."

Judas: "I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood."

Centurion in charge of the crucifixion: "Truly, this was the Son of God."

Thomas: (You said you would not believe; what say you now?) "My Lord and my God."

James: (You scorned your brother while he lived.) "Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory."

John: (You outlived all the other witnesses . . . they are all gone . . . testify once more.) "Who is he that overcometh the world, but him that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God."

Saul: (You are about to die. What say you now?) "Death is swallowed up in Victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"

Choose you this day whom you believe:

The perjured guards, or Peter.

Caiaphas, or the Centurion.

The priests, or Mark and James and John and Saul and Stephen.

Annas, or the saints in Caesar's household.

Ingersoll, or the deserted grave cloths.

The great flat stone, or Clarence Darrow.

Whom do you trust? Those who believe this great historic fact, or those who doubt?

"Alas for him who never sees

The stars shine through his cypress trees,

Who hopeless lays his dead away

Nor looks to see the breaking day

Across the mossy marbles play;

Who hath not learned in hours of faith

The truth to flesh and sense unknown,

That life is ever lord of death

And love can never lose its own."

"If a man die, shall he live again?" Oh, Job, your hope is now our heritage! Your faith, now our foundation stone! The established truth of the



disciples' claim "He is risen, yes, risen from the dead," answers your question once for all through all the years to come.

"Sunset and Evening Star  
And one clear call for me,  
And let there be no moaning at the bar  
When I put out to sea."

Oh, not that, not that! That's only hope. Job could have written more than that.

"Twilight and evening bell  
And after that the dark,  
But let there be no sadness of farewell  
When I embark."

Oh, no! Not that! That's only resignation. You read again and make your own testimony of the witnesses. Job's simple cry of faith becomes your demonstrated certainty: "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

Sunrise, forevermore,  
Through all eternity;  
I know I'll meet my Christ, my Lord, my King,  
When Sunrise dawns for me.



## Steuben County Educational Development

*By Roxie Allman Charles*

The first white settlers located in what is now Steuben County, Indiana, during the period 1830-1840. As soon after as possible, parents made some provision for the education of their children. The standards of the time required that all persons should be taught the three R's—reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic; and writing schools and spelling bees were sponsored to stimulate the art of penmanship and the knowledge of orthography.

Necessarily, the first schools were taught in private homes by individuals who had qualifications and gifts for teaching. However, each settlement soon made plans to erect its own school building, and by 1840 several schoolhouses had been built. These first structures were made of logs, extremely rude buildings with puncheon floors, fireplaces, and great stone and stick chimneys; and it was not the least of the teacher's duties at that time, to keep fires that would enable

the students to work in comfort. Crude log benches were provided for seating. There were no comfortable desks for study. But most of these first log schoolhouses in Steuben County did have the advantage of 7 x 9 inch window panes, instead of the oiled paper used in the primitive structures of the still earlier generations.

Naturally the supply of text books for use in these first schools was limited. One early settler relates that mothers usually taught the five year children the alphabet at home, frequently using the New Testament for that purpose; it also served as a reading book at school. Children also studied Pike's arithmetic, Comly's spelling book, and Webster's Elementary text. Writing books were made of fools-cap paper, or of leaves out of some cast-off account book, stitched together. The teacher wrote the copies and made the pens from goose-quills, for the entire school.

Teachers of that time had not had extensive education and training, but they had thorough knowledge of the elementary subjects they did teach, and most of them had a real aptitude for teaching that enabled them to understand the child and to instruct him carefully. Also, most of these early teachers were individuals of sturdy, wholesome character, who shaped the moral and social ideals of the child correctly. Honesty and industry were stressed as most important virtues.

## Schoolhouses

(Jackson Township)

The first schoolhouse in the County was built about 1835 by two pioneers, John Stayner and Adolphus Towns, and was constructed of tamarack logs, and had a puncheon floor, and a door made of shakes. The seats were benches of home-split planking, smoothed a little with a broad-ax. It was located in the west part of Steuben County, on the north side of what is now known as Jackson Prairie. The first teacher was a lady by the name of Hannah Davis. She was an ancestor of one of the later County Superintendents of Schools, H. Lyle Shank.

As the years passed other log and frame school buildings were erected in Jackson Township, and later, most, if not all of these were replaced by brick structures. And in these buildings many able and consecrated teachers directed the education of the youth of the community. In 1909 there was constructed in the village of Flint a High

and Grade School plant that cost \$7,600. A second unit was added to this first in 1924, at the cost of approximately \$17,000, to adequately care for the children of the entire township. Since that time such other improvements have been made as required to meet the standards for a state commissioned Township Consolidated Grade and High School.

(Steuben Township)

In the spring of 1836 a schoolhouse was erected on Section 10 in Steuben township, in what was later known as the village of Steuben. Lucy Avery was the first teacher. Her pay was \$1.25 per week, and she boarded round with her pupils.

Within a few years other log or frame buildings were constructed, until finally Steuben Township had six school districts. Great effort was made to provide these schools with good teachers and the best equipment the times afforded. Eventually brick buildings replaced the original structures, and for a time these met the needs of the various school communities. The march of progress, however, led to the consolidation of these one-room schools with the High and Grade school located in the village of Pleasant Lake, and since 1914 a new building costing approximately \$30,000 has been the educational center for the township. More recently the addition of several class rooms and a gymnasium with a seating capacity of nearly one thousand persons provides Steuben Township with one of the best school plants in the county.

(Salem Township)

Salem Township erected its first schoolhouse in 1837, very primitive in design, nevertheless, a center of education. The first person to teach there was Laura Dryer. The first school at the village of Salem Center was taught by Eliza Smith in the winter 1841-1842. This schoolhouse, built the autumn before, was the second erected in the Township. The schoolhouse at Hudson was erected in 1876, and Frank Ritter taught the first terms of school in that building.

In 1911 Salem built its own Township High School at the village of Salem Center, at a cost of \$15,000. This building burned in November 1925, and in 1926 a new Township Consolidated Grade and High School Building was erected at the center of the township, costing \$68,000. Oakley Amerman was the trustee of the township at that time.

(Millgrove Township)

In Millgrove Township the first schoolhouse was constructed in the year 1837. It stood in what is now the town of Orland. And, surprising as it seems, this was a frame and not a log building. It was commodious for the time, being 20 x 40 feet, and for several years it was used for religious services and other community gatherings. Prior to the erection of this building, school had been taught in private homes by Mrs. Augustus Kimball (nee Eliza Eaton), and by Mr. and Mrs. Elihu Sabin. Their salary was very meager.

For thirty years (1848-1878) higher education for Millgrove Township was provided by the Orland Academy (Northeastern Indiana Literary Institute,—discussed in a later section of this History). In 1870, N. M. Aldrich, trustee of the Township, erected on Barry Street in Orland, a district school building. In 1878 when the Orland Academy building was deeded by its trustees to the School Township of Millgrove, this district school building on Barry Street was moved over to the south side of the Academy building, and there was opened the first graded High School for the community.

In 1909, when Milo Thompson was trustee, Millgrove Township erected on the Orland school site a new Grade and High School building which cost \$19,500. Within a few years all the grade schools of the township were consolidated at this point receiving instruction from one efficient teaching staff. Later, in 1938, there was added to this school property a new Community Building and Gymnasium which cost \$41,800.

Two school men who gave outstanding service in the supervision and development of the efficient High and Grade Schools of Millgrove Township, were Albert J. Collins and Thurman P. Charles.

(Jamestown Township)

The exact date of the building of the first log schoolhouse in Jamestown Township is not recorded, but one historian says that it was erected near the home of Mr. Bliss who settled two miles east of Eagleville (now Jamestown); and that soon after a school was opened in the Collins neighborhood, west of Jamestown.

Another local historian recalls that one of the first schools was taught on Ezekiel Brown's place, and that subsequently it was moved near Jamestown, in the Collins neighborhood. Fidelia Tillotson was one of the very first teachers; and another



who taught as early as 1839, was a Miss Mary Roberts.

At Nevada Mills the first school was in a small building which stood over in Millgrove township on the north side of the road. Later a new schoolhouse for Nevada Mills was built on a Jamestown Township land site, near the Church. The present brick structure was erected near the same spot in 1879. For High School education Jamestown has transferred its pupils to other school corporations.

#### (Fremont Township)

The first school in Fremont Township was held in the cabin home of Thomas Knott. The first frame school building was erected in Fremont in 1845. It was paid for by private subscription, and was for several years used also as a church. Other one-room schools were built about the township, and each school district became a flourishing center of education.

In 1856 a new schoolhouse was built in Fremont which was 30 x 36 ft. and two stories high; it cost \$1500. This building burned in August 1877, after which a brick building was erected at the cost of \$6,000.

In 1912 the town and township built jointly a schoolhouse that cost approximately \$16,000; and this building was remodeled in 1921 at the cost approximating \$91,000. In, or about, 1938 this school plant was further modernized and today it meets every need of an up to date school community.

The citizens of Fremont township early provided for the higher education of their children. And the town of Fremont in 1876 had an outstanding school with three departments,—Primary, Intermediate and High School, with an efficient corps of teachers to instruct in a wide range of subjects. The High School Course at that time included such subjects as Algebra, Geometry, Latin, Botany, History, English, Philosophy, Chemistry, Astronomy, and Surveying. Printed rules of order reveal high standards for conduct and behavior. The total enrollment for the school at that date (1876) was 142 pupils; and the average compensation of the teachers per year was \$332. The number of days taught was 180. With such excellent beginnings Fremont schools continued to operate on equally high standards of scholarship and conduct throughout the years.

#### (Clear Lake Township)

Clear Lake, the smallest of our townships, built its first schoolhouse at Harris' Corners in Section 33; and the first term of school was taught by Aariah Beach. Other one-room schools were built and later replaced by more permanent types of structure.

All school pupils in this township are now (1954) being transferred to other school corporations.

#### (Scott Township)

The first teacher was Mrs. Mahala Lobdell, who kept a school in her own house. The first log schoolhouse was erected in the year 1844 in District No. 4, and in this building Mrs. Loraine Pierce taught the first term of school.

The first frame schoolhouse was built in 1850 by Wellington Cook. In other school districts houses were erected by the citizens of the township, and the boys and girls profited by the instruction of able teachers of that day. During the years 1880-1890 the roll of teachers included such names as William Covell, George Balding, Peter Wicoff, Joseph Badger, George Elliott, John Thompson, Ida McCartney, Hattie Phenicie, Sarah, Lell, and Florilla Segur, Allie and Nannie Cline, Nettie Cole, Emma Miller, Ellen Moss, Alice Hathaway, Allie Thomas, Carrie Abby, Belle Smith, Gretta Cruson, Bertha Shumaker, Josie Gasser, Bertha Holdridge, and many others.

In 1917 Scott Township built a Township Consolidated High and Grade School property at the cost of \$20,000, and subsequently its district grade schools were discontinued.

#### (Pleasant Township)

The first school in Pleasant Township was taught in rooms of Elder Stealy's home in 1838. The teacher was Hortense Miner. The first schoolhouse was probably the one erected in Angola in 1840, on a spot later occupied by the Joseph Sowle residence. Further development of the Angola schools will be recorded in additional paragraphs of this history. But we must mention the many active school centers in the township in school districts known as Sowle Settlement, Sand Hill, Crooked Lake, Loon Lake, Silver Lake, Fox Lake, the Horn school (No. 9), Town Line, and Leavittsburg. These district schools prepared many grade pupils for entrance to the Angola High School where they competed with honor, doing credit to

the teachers who taught them during their earlier years. Some of the teachers holding longest tenure in the township were: Nettie Fast Freleigh, Grace Laird, Jeanneatte Sowle, Julia Sowle, Cora Turley, Irene Crain, Kittie Horn, and Fela Parish. The last named, Fela Parish, taught also for many years in the Primary Grades of the Angola School, and was one of the best known and most loved women of the community.

(Otsego Township)

In Otsego Township the first schoolhouse was built in Section 16, and the first teacher was Amos Stancliff. Citizens later built schoolhouses in various other districts, north, south, east and west, and these schools were taught by capable and conscientious teachers through a long period of years.

In 1885 the town of Hamilton had one of the best buildings in the county school system. It was a two-story brick, with belfry and bell; and it had been built in 1878 under the trusteeship of Clay Lemmon at a cost of \$2,800. The furniture for it cost \$400. In 1885 the school was graded into Primary, Intermediate, and Grammar departments. Prof. Charles Segur had charge of the Grammar school; Thomas P. French supervised and taught the Intermediate pupils; and Miss Effie Hoose was the Primary teacher. The average attendance of the school was 100 pupils.

To meet the growing needs this Hamilton school building was remodeled in 1902 at a cost of approximately \$15,000. Again, in the year 1927-28, under the trusteeship of Leo Cameron, a new unit was constructed adjacent to the older building. This new addition to the school plant provided gymnasium, stage and auditorium; and at the cost of some thousands of dollars it made the Hamilton school plant modern in every respect, and adequate for both present and future needs.

(Richland Township)

In Richland Township the first schoolhouse was built at Richland Center (Alvarado); this was a small log building. Later the township had five one-room school buildings known as, Alvarado, Bethel (or Robinett), Gilmore or "Jug-Handle," East Metz, and the Cameron School which was later moved to the Morgan School site. We do not know who the first teacher or teachers were in this township, but some of the earlier ones whose names appear of record were Orville Goodale, Frank Cameron, and Robert V. Carlin. Later in

the century some of those who taught in the schools were: Genia Cary, David Aldrich, Clarence Gilbert, Effie Hoose, Edith, Mattie and Margaret Allman, Margaret Parrott, Clara Anspaugh, Harvey Omstead, Lulu Dewire, Callie Brandeberry, P. D. L. Alspach, Stella Swift, and Ida Wright.

Shortly after the Civil War there was erected a two-story building near the center of Richland Township, in which was maintained a private school or Academy that was sometimes spoken of as "The Select School." It was considered the educational center for the eastern part of Steuben County for a number of years, but it ceased to exist before the year 1895, and from that time was but a memory.

In 1915, the citizens of York and Richland townships having voted to consolidate their school system, there was constructed at Metz the York-Richland Township Consolidated School building for the education of grade and High School pupils. The cost of the building was approximately \$20,000. Since that time there had been added a gymnasium, and rooms for the teacher of vocational agriculture courses.

(York Township)

In York township the first school was taught in the winter of 1838 by Winn Powers, in a log cabin near Powers Corners, one mile north of Metz. This was the only school in the township until 1844 when a frame building was erected on land owned by Stephen A. Powers, Sr., near the center of York Township. Mr. Powers, himself, taught the first school here. He was an excellent teacher, and in many ways a most remarkable person. He possessed a prodigious memory, and could recite verbatim many of the longer classic poems; and could recall many events in history. He was a logical reasoner, and was apt in the field of science and in mathematics. He practiced surveying along with his profession of farming. And for forty-two winters he taught in the public schools.

About 1844 a rough schoolhouse was erected near Hathaways' Corners, in which Martin Eldredge was the first teacher. Another schoolhouse constructed was known as the "School Section." And there were others.

In 1853 a log schoolhouse was built about one-half mile east of the village of Metz. The use of this building was discontinued in the early seventies when a small frame schoolhouse was built within the village, on the site where the



York-Richland Joint School building now stands.

The following is an article, written and read by Eva Barron Allman at one of the first public programs in this new Joint School Building (1916), in which she refers to some experiences in the original log school building east of the village of Metz.

### Old Schooldays

"In the year 1865, when I was five years old, I had my first day of school. The Schoolhouse was located one-half mile east of Metz on the York township corner. It was a small building, seated with benches. These benches were placed along the side walls, and in front of them were desks at which the older pupils sat. In front of the desks there was a long, low bench upon which the Primary folks were seated. They had no desks but their laps, nor did the beginners who sat on a low bench at the front of the schoolroom near the teacher's desk. The boys and girls were separated like the sheep from the goats,—to the right and to the left, and all sat facing toward the center of the room. A big stove was in the center of the schoolhouse, and a small blackboard and a teacher's desk were the other furnishings.

"My first teacher was Mrs. Dr. T. F. Wood. In those days we had three terms of school each year, and a change of teachers came often. I carried to school as my first text-book a Speller, from which I learned my A. B. C.'s. We recited four times a day, but the hours were long to a five-year-old, with no busy-work to while the time away. I remember amusing myself by lying with my head hanging off my bench and watching Mrs. Wood's dress trail along the floor, (the fashion in those days). I recall that we learned to count by the use of strings of colored beads, but I can recollect no other number work, nor were we taught to write during the first few years of our school attendance.

"My highest ambition in those days was to be promoted from the Beginners' seats to the Primary bench, and then to go on to the Big Desks. This ambition was finally realized when in the early seventies we moved to the new schoolhouse built in the village of Metz. This was a frame building (now used as a dwelling by the Tracy Vaughn family). It was seated in the new way, with double seats and desks. Here in this building I studied my first Geography and History, and at 12 years I had Grammar. This seemed a very difficult subject as we had had no composition

work or simpler lessons in English Language, to prepare the way. . . .

"Some of my teachers which I remember best were Lizzie Townsend, Emma Keep, Oscar Rakestraw, and Orville Goodale. I had happy days at school, but how meager were our opportunities compared with those of today. With the present system of grading, the better trained teachers, the interesting text-books so well adapted to the needs of each grade; and with the splendid equipment now provided for domestic science, manual training, agriculture; the music and art, and the "busy work" for the little folks, your opportunities are so much greater. It all makes me wish I could be young again and gain with you the better education which we older people were denied."

Eva Barron Allman

### Development of Independent Schools for Higher Education

The one-room schoolhouses built about the County during the period 1835-1850 provided for elementary instruction for children, but very early there was felt the need for higher education. To satisfy this need ambitious parents eagerly subscribed and paid for private or "select" schools to provide for more advanced learning for their young people. A. W. Long, one of Steuben County's pioneer school teachers, relates that several such schools existed for periods of time in the town of Angola, located, viz: in the Eagle hotel; the "Buckeye" building where the Work block later stood; in the Darrah home on West Maumee street; in the old Ben Brown building on the north side of the public square where now stands the Williamson Hardware building; and in homes on lots later owned by Felah Parish and Will Elstons. However, it was undoubtedly the people of the Vermont Settlement (Orland) in the northwest corner of the County, who took first action in providing such a school for Higher Education.

### The Orland Academy

(Northeastern Indiana Literary Institute)

This institution had its beginning in 1848. The first movement toward its establishment was under the more direct auspices of the Baptist church of the Orland vicinity, but as a matter of educational enterprise received the earnest support and patronage of all the people. Captain Samuel Barry, a generous and progressive minded citizen, gave

the land and bore two-thirds of the cost of the building. When the building was completed the promoters of this Northeastern Indiana Literary Institute secured the services of Prof. Samuel Harper, a graduate of Ann Arbor University of Michigan, as first Principal and teacher. The success of the school was immediate. Students enrolled from all the surrounding territory.

Prof. Harper supervised and taught the school for four years, and then was followed by Gardner W. Gibson, John C. Barnard, Prof. Potter, C. E. Simons, C. C. Hutchinson, J. E. Pool, J. W. Gilispie, Prof. Fast, and then by Professors Neihardt, Burrier, Newbauer, J. P. Taylor, and others.

Up to the outbreak of the Civil War this school was exceptionally well patronized and flourished beyond the expectations of its most optimistic founders. Young people came from southern Michigan, from northwestern Ohio, and from all northern Indiana to study at this popular center of learning. It was noted for its literary culture and scientific instruction. Many of the graduates of the school became leading lawyers, judges, physicians, teachers and clergymen.

Attendance at this Institute, or Orland Academy, was cut sharply during Civil War days. Prof. Gilispie himself and nearly all the male students enlisted in the army. Three other of the teachers also enlisted before the war was finished. It was a hard blow to the institution. However, it continued to operate with a fair enrollment and a good corps of teachers for at least a decade longer before the changing conditions of social and economic life advised the closing of its doors. In 1878 the trustees of the Institute deeded the property to the School Township of Millgrove, and it became from then on a part of its public school system.

### **The Angola Academy**

In 1862 George W. McConnell, A. W. Hendry, and Thomas B. Morse of Angola, desiring better privileges of education for the youth of the community, secured the services of John W. Cowen, a graduate of Waynesburg College, Pennsylvania, and a Miss Mary A. Cooley, graduate of Oberlin College, and organized a school in the old "Bee Hive" building which stood on the spot where the Hotel Hendry is now located. This school was known to some as the "Union Seminary" and to others as "The Angola Academy."

Prior to the organization of this select or private school, many young people in the vicinity of An-

gola who desired education beyond that offered by the primitive grade schools, had gone either to Hillsdale College (Michigan), or to the Orland Academy. But when this "Angola Academy" was established a greater number of the local youth were privileged to acquire a higher education, and others from surrounding townships enrolled for courses of study until the school was soon taxed to its full capacity.

The success of this Angola Academy led to two important actions regarding the future educational advantages to be offered by the community. One was the enlargement of the grade and high school facilities for the town of Angola; and the other was the establishing in 1884 of Tri-State Normal College. This, too, was made possible by the effort and sacrifice on the part of some of the most enterprising citizens of the community, viz: Dr. Hugh D. Wood, Lewis Hendry, William Ferrier, Lawrence Gates, Orville Goodale, Orville Carver, L. S. Draper, and Prof. L. R. Williams, who comprised the first Board of Education; and other interested patrons who subscribed to the funds raised for the purchase of the land site and the erection of buildings thereon. (The further history of Tri-State Normal College and its successor Tri-State College will be developed in an additional chapter of this History.)

### **Development of the County School System**

The first schools of Steuben County were supported by private subscription. Teachers were boarded by the school patrons, and in addition to this support were paid salaries of from \$5.00 to \$15.00 per month. By 1840 some Townships had begun to derive a small fund from the sale of school lands set apart for educational purposes. Sometimes this fund was not more than a few dollars, but it kept increasing and made possible higher paid and better qualified teachers. With the adoption of the State Constitution in 1852, a tax of 16 cents on each one hundred dollars of property assessed went into the School Fund. From that date on, the County had schoolhouses where most needed, and there was at least a short term of school every year.

During those earlier years the school terms were irregular in length and often of short duration. However, after the year 1885 most rural schools in the County seem to have been in session three terms each year; two months in Autumn; four months in the winter; and two months in the



spring. Salaries for teaching the fall and spring terms were often only half the amount paid for winter teaching. For instance, as late as 1895 the standard wage for the winter term was \$40 per month, and for the two shorter terms of the year the teachers were paid only \$20 per month. This was because many of the older boys and girls of the districts attended school during the winter months only, and so during those months the enrollment was larger and the discipline a more difficult problem for the teacher. In many cases it was desirable to secure the services of a man, or at least one of the more experienced women teachers.

In those times schools were kept five days per week, with Monday as the holiday when the big girls helped mothers with the family washings, and boys helped replenish the wood piles.

For many years the subject matter taught in the rural schools was not graded, and the teacher was obliged to organize many classes to fit the varying needs of the pupils who attended school more or less irregularly. This, coupled with the fact that the teacher must handle in one school room pupils of all sizes, from six to eighteen years of age, made his or her task a most arduous one. But even under these difficult circumstances education progressed, and it is recorded that by 1884 there was not a boy or girl in the County between the ages of ten and twenty-one years who could not read and write.

In the beginning years equipment was meager, but the increase in school funds gradually made possible better desks, blackboards, globes, maps, charts, dictionaries, and finally the Reading Circle books, and other supplementary reading materials.

### County Superintendents

With the introduction of the County School Superintendency rural school affairs began to improve rapidly.

In 1873 John W. Cowen was made supervisor of the entire school system of Steuben County. Associated with him at that time as the County Board of Education were the twelve township trustees, and one representative of the School Board of the town of Fremont, and two men representing the School system of the town of Angola. They were: H. M. Aldrich (Millgrove); H. C. Shutts (Jamestown); Theodore McNabb (Fremont Twp.); D. B.

Teeters (Clear Lake); William Wicoff (York); R. H. Goddard (Scott); David Eberly (Pleasant); C. C. Brown (Jackson); A. G. Parsell (Salem); Jesse H. Carpenter (Otsego); John Cameron (Richland); Francis McCartney and Oliver A. Crockett (Angola); and Lambert Hall (Fremont Corporation).

A County Teachers' Institute was held the week commencing November 17, 1873, and one hundred teachers were in attendance. During its sessions a motion was adopted: "That the following schedule of uniform prices for compensation of teachers for the Winter term in District schools of the County be as follows:

When the General Average of Grades made in Examinations is

60% to 70% the salary to be \$20 to \$25

70% to 80% the salary to be \$25 to \$30

80% to 90% the salary to be \$30 to \$35

Over 90% the salary to be \$35

Text Books adopted were Harper's U. S. Readers  
Ray's Arithmetic (Third Part)

Stoddard's Mental Arithmetic

Electric Penmanship

McNally's Geography

Dalton's Physiology

Harper's School History of the United States

Kerl's Grammar

McGuffey's Speller

At the close of the first year of his term of office Supt. John W. Cowen made the following written report to the State Public Instruction Department at Indianapolis to-wit:

"To Hon. M. B. Hopkins, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. We are pleased to report that there is a keen interest in school matters throughout the county. The teachers are earnest, devoted and competent. And the trustees are active in promoting the welfare of the district schools in the county.

"The private, or 'select' schools for higher learning are over-flowing with students.

"Some new schoolhouses have been erected. At four points there are marked improvements, viz.: At Pleasant Lake a two-story building erected. It is finely located in a grove upon the banks of a charming lake. The rooms are furnished with improved seats and desks and with blackboards. At Orland, which for years has been the leading center of education in the county, the building and grounds have been repaired and beautified. Buildings thoroughly renovated by painting, papering,

and furnishing with new seats and desks. At Fremont, also, improvements of a useful and substantial character have been made. And, at the town of Angola, in the spring of 1873, the school was separated from the district schools of Pleasant Township with which they had formerly been identified, and are now under control of a School Board appointed by the Trustees of the Town. Trees were being planted on the school grounds (Angola). And the large and commodious building has been put in substantial repair. . . .

"The District Schools of the County greatly need fuller use of the uniform series of text books recently adopted by the County Board of Education.

JOHN W. COWEN, County Superintendent."

In 1874 the Steuben County Board of Education passed a group of Rules and Regulations prohibiting employment of teachers who used immoral language and intoxicating liquors. No tobacco was to be used on school premises by either teachers or pupils.

During the year 1875 Supt. John W. Cowen resigned, and he was succeeded by L. R. Williams who served until 1877. In November 1876 there were 188 teachers enrolled at the County Teachers' Institute.

Cyrus Cline was elected County Superintendent in 1877 and served until June 4, 1883, a period of six years. General problems solved during this term of office seem to have been the unifying of the schools in matters of qualifications and wages of the teachers, the adoption of uniform text books in the schools, and the improvement of school properties.

Robert V. Carlin was elected to the office of County Superintendent in the year 1883, and he continued in service until June 1897, a period of fourteen years. Perhaps no school supervisor of the County was ever more loved and respected than he was. Patiently and persistently he sought to unify the rural school system, to raise the qualifications of its teachers, and to increase their efficiency in teaching. During his term of office many new one-room brick school houses replaced former log and frame structures. In 1892, as a result of his effort to instill patriotism in the hearts of the pupils, 85 American Flags (U. S.) floated over the schoolhouses of Steuben County.

In 1890 the total school enrollment for the County (including the Angola public schools) was 3,449, and the courses of study had been improved by the

addition of a wider range of subject materials. Institute sessions of a full week duration were held regularly preceding each school year. At these Institutes discussions on methods of teaching, and inspirational addresses were program features that added richly to the endowment of the fortunate teachers in attendance.

Homer Dilworth was elected County Superintendent in the year 1897, and he also served the county for a period of fourteen years, completing his term of service in 1911. During those years, Supt. Dilworth succeeded in making the school year a continuous term of approximately eight months, with the same teacher serving throughout that time. This was a decided improvement over the former system of three terms per year with each often taught by a different instructor. Also the weekly holiday was changed from Monday to Saturday. The courses of study in our rural schools were more systematically graded, and the idea of yearly promotions was introduced. County Teachers' Institutes were continued during Mr. Dilworth's term of supervision, and it was early in his terms of office that the first meeting of the Steuben County Teachers' Association was held.

H. Lyle Shank was elected to the County School Superintendency in June, 1911, and served to the full satisfaction of his constituency for approximately nine years. During his term of office there was brought about much consolidation of the one-room township schools. At least two new buildings were constructed, viz.: The York-Richland Joint Township School building at Metz; and the Scott Center High and Grade School building. Other High School buildings of the County were enlarged sufficiently to care for consolidation of one room district schools.

In 1916, during the Principalship of T. P. Charles, the new York-Richland Consolidated School established the first Vocational Agriculture School in the County under the Smith-Hughes Act. Charles R. Hoffer, a Purdue University graduate, was the teacher who successfully organized this new school project and the 4-H Club work associated with it. Subsequently, Supt. H. L. Shank encouraged the introduction of Vocational Agriculture and Home Economics Courses into all the Township Consolidated Schools under his supervision.

Following the resignation of H. Lyle Shank in



1920, Glen O. Simpson was elected to succeed him, and he served as our County Superintendent of Schools until 1929. Several outstanding features indicate the efficiency of Mr. Simpson's term of office. A number of new Vocational Agriculture schools were established in the county; 4-H Club work was inaugurated on a county-wide basis; and Home Economic departments of the Township Consolidated Schools were enlarged and strengthened to meet the growing demand for instruction in those subjects; Courses in Bookkeeping and Typewriting, and Business English and Arithmetic were added to High School curriculums. Also, the interest of pupils and teachers in music and the literary arts was stimulated by a series of county contests; and the County Board of Education employed a County Supervisor of Music, and also one for Penmanship and Art. To make possible county-wide participation in the music program, band and orchestra instruments were made available to those who wished to rent and to receive instruction thereon. And thus potential talents were developed, and community interest stimulated to such a degree that in later years it has been possible to enlarge the music program in each of the County schools.

Township School Principals serving under Supt. G. O. Simpson in 1925, when the foregoing program was being organized and put into action, were: C. L. Murray (Pleasant Lake); Bruce M. Boyers (Scott Center); Cecil Appleman (Fremont); H. A. Stech (Salem Center); Jay Warren (York-Richland); Carl F. Stallman (Flint); Orvil D. Kessler (Hamilton); and Thurman P. Charles (Orland).

Robert O'Connell was Steuben County Superintendent of Schools for the period 1929-1933, and he was succeeded by Frank Hammond who served approximately three years, when on August 1, 1936, Mr. Hammond resigned to re-enter public school teaching work at Indianapolis, Indiana. Both these Superintendents worked to improve the school program already set up in the County, and to stimulate further interest in athletic and grade contest work. They also sought to and did provide supplementary reading materials for the use of all grade teachers.

At this high tide of school affairs in Steuben County, Willis Roberts was made the County Superintendent (1936), and to him fell the task of keeping the program strengthened, eliminating features he thought time had proved no longer de-

sirable, and inaugurating such new methods as he deemed advisable. He gave himself unreservedly to this task until June, 1949, when he was succeeded by our present incumbent, Ross Wilkinson.

In June 1953, after four years of service, Supt. Ross Wilkinson was re-elected to second term, and is proving himself a courteous and efficient public servant. Under his supervision Howard McDaniel is serving as County Speech and Hearing Therapist. June O'Brien is the County Health Nurse.

At the present time the Steuben County Public School system is made up of eight (8) Commissioned Township High and Grade Schools, and one Grade School, located as follows: Fremont, Orland, Scott Center, Metz, Hamilton, Pleasant Lake, Salem Center, Flint, and Hudson (grade school). The City of Angola has its own school system and its history is recorded in a separate paragraph of this history.

In 1953-1954 the total enrollment in the eight Townships Consolidated, and one grade school (Hudson) was 2,323 pupils. Of this total 662 are High School students, and 1,661 grade pupils. The total enrollment by schools is as follows: Flint, 177; Fremont, 518; Hamilton, 327; Metz, 240; Orland, 274; Pleasant Lake, 280; Scott, 170; Salem Center and Hudson combined total, 337.

There are in 1953-54 a total of 105 teachers in the County System.

### County Board of Education

Clear Lake Township, Keith Oberst; Fremont Township, Burl B. Baker; Jackson Township, Leonard German; Jamestown Township, Robert Finicle; Millgrove Township, Albert Graham; Otsego Township, Lawrence Crowl; Pleasant Township, Leland Nedele; Richland Township, Carl McKinley; Salem Township, Donald Norman; Scott Township, Dale Nedele; Steuben Township, Clarence Chrysler; York Township, Robert Gibbeny; County Superintendent, Ross Wilkinson; County Attendance Officer, Ross Wilkinson; Speech and Hearing Therapist, Howard McDaniel; County Nurse, June O'Brien; County Health Officer, Dr. Knight Kissingner.

### List of 1953-1954 Principals and Teachers

Clear Lake Township: All pupils transferred to other corporations.

Fremont Township—Fremont School: Jay L. Mertz, Principal, Raymond Duke, Eldon McKenzie,

Mariellen Pettry, John Hill, Richard Latier, Elizabeth Donmoyer, Marilyn Lowe, Maurice Davis, William Kelly, Marion Clark, Edna Ehrhart, Dolores Warford, Pansy Anspaugh, Marie Schmiede, Gladys Ax, Thelma Nilson, Ruth Pifer, Grace Oberlin, Ruth Carrott, Kathleen Latier, Helen Healy.

Hudson School: Rowena Ringler, Dolores Christoffel.

Scott Township—Scott Center School: Will Myers, Principal, Estelle Cline, Judith Rathburn, William Fee, Nick Minichillo, N. C. Watters, Medisa Weldon, Patricia Martin, Alberta Allion, J. Tide Cook.

York-Richland Joint Townships—Metz School: William Smallwood, Principal, Ralph Boling, Ronald Osburn, Rowena Mann, Ruby Smallwood, Mildred McCool, Gloria Ruggles, Naomi Amerman, Ann Fadow, Emerson Hildabrandt.

Steuben Township—Pleasant Lake: Walter Schubert, Principal, Pauline Barkdull, Norma Millhollin, Russell Brayton, J. Tide Cook, John Glasgow, John Walter, Bessie Olson, Robert Anderson, Evangeline Fuller, Glyda Favourite, Hilda Chrysler, Violet Holloper, Berta McAlpin, Yvonne Miller.

Richland Township: Member of the York-Richland Joint School.

York Township: Member of the York-Richland Joint School.

Jackson Township—Flint School: Ira Bright, Principal, Herschel Wence, Elizabeth Trennepohl, Robert Morley, Rena Bright, Mary Roberts, Carolyn Grosbeck, Oleva Watkins, Dorothy Bryan.

Jamestown Township: All pupils transferred to other corporations.

Millgrove Township—Orland School: Max Mitchell, Principal, Ernest Young, Harry Kelley, Rose Marie Haenni, Pauline Grabill, Dorothy Miller, Miriam Ramsey, Arlene Kraning, Evelyn Klingler, Esther Grabill, Bonnie Van Wagner.

Otsego Township—Hamilton School: A. B. Barkdull, Principal, Gertrude Crain, Fred Boller, Ronald Vaughn, C. H. Elliott, Ruth Holzworth, Richard Norris, Letha Hanselman, Arnold Fee, Mary Bopp, Ruth Fuller, Berta Willennar, Olive Wagner, Rose Griffith.

Salem Township—Salem Center School: Leland Fee, Principal, S. J. Mercer, James Rowe, Richard Halsey, Dorothy Powell, Betty Kanaan, Leda Litwiller, Dorothy Duke, Orlie Willennar, Josephine Parsell, Helen Hockey, Bessie Lepley.

### The Angola City Schools

Local historians seem to agree that the first schoolhouse in Angola was a log structure built in 1840 on a lot later occupied by the Joseph Sowle residence, and at the present time (1954) by the Klink Funeral Home. But the public school around which clustered the memories of more of the earlier citizens of the community, was a two-story frame building located in the vicinity north of where the Methodist Church now stands. "Here," wrote A. W. Long, former teacher and school historian, "was born the splendid graded school system of which our city is so justly proud."

This first grade school building, located west and north of the public square, was erected about the year 1853, at the cost of approximately \$2,000. It faced to the southward. In 1860 an addition was built to the north end to accommodate the "little tots" of the first Primary department. J. Wesley Thomas was teaching the Grammar Grades and Miss Cynthia Kitridge the Primary when the building burned in February, 1864.

Of this incident A. W. Long further relates: "Evans Matthews, sent out after wood to replenish the big box stove, discovered that the roof was on fire and gave the alarm. Those boys and girls had never been taught a fire drill, but somehow they got out through the windows and doors and no one was hurt. Miss May Weicht, a child of five years, forgot in her haste a dear little red woolen bonnet, and when the building was about to collapse, dashed back into the flames and rescued it. No 'siren' shrieked its wild alarm and no magnificent 'fire brigade' would have responded if it had, but the whole town turned out with brimming pails of water and valiantly guarded the Bob Squiers livery barn across the street."

It was following this period that Angola public school history began to center around the location of the present site of the Angola City Schools. On October 12, 1863, Alanson W. Hendry and his wife Louisa Hendry, deeded to Pleasant Township the Lots 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, 32, 33, 34, 39, and 40 in Hendry's addition to the town of Angola, stipulating that a public school was to be erected thereon. (Later, August 9, 1875, these lots on which school buildings had been built were deeded to the Angola Metropolitan School Corporation.)

It was sometime during the period 1864-66 that the Angola schools took up residence in this school building on South Wayne Street. Prior to this time



higher education for the young people of Angola had been provided by private, or "select" schools supported by the local citizens interested in such educational projects. These "select" schools were located in public or private buildings, such as the Eagle Hotel; the "Buckeye" building where the Work block was builded later; in the Darrah home on West Maumee street; in the old Ben Brown building on the north side of the public square; and on lots of Fela Parish and the Will Elstons. And, finally, there was the establishment of the "Union Seminary" in the old "Bee Hive" building where Hotel Hendry now stands. Gradually, however, these private schools were abandoned in favor of a new High School that was organized in connection with the Angola Grade Public School.

Angola school records show that the first Superintendent was Robert V. Carlin who served during the period 1866-1872, and again in 1881-1883. Intervening, Prof. L. R. Williams was the loved supervisor of the school for nine years, viz.: 1872-1881.

In a report made by County Superintendent John W. Cowen, to the Indiana State Department of Public Instruction, dated 1873, he said: "This year the Angola town school was separated from the district schools of Pleasant Township with which it had been formerly identified, and it is now under the control of a School Board appointed by the Trustees of the town. Trees have been planted on the school grounds. The large and commodious building has been thoroughly repaired, and part of it has been reseated. Among important advances made in the school program are: A series of lectures extending through the Fall Term; a Normal Class for the training of teachers; a Literary Society organized and in successful operation; and the foundation of a valuable library has been assembled."

The roll of Angola School Superintendents continues, as follows: A. B. Stevens, 1885-1887; F. E. Knopf, 1887-1888; W. O. Bailey, 1888-1893; J. W. Wyandt, 1893-1903; H. H. Keep, 1903-1906; E. V. Shockley, 1906-1908; E. O. Maple, 1908-1910; L. T. Platt, 1910-1914; A. J. Seible, 1914-1917; H. B. Allman, 1917-1924; J. L. Estrich, 1924-1947; and W. H. Boomershire, 1947-.

Progress marked the tenure of these school superintendents, and the Angola schools outgrew the first building. In 1883 a fine new schoolhouse was erected on the same site. The school continued to

grow, and by 1909 the Angola High School was State Accredited, and that year graduated 35 students, the largest class in the history of the school at that time.

In 1914 the Angola High School required 32 credits for graduation; a credit being "one subject recited five periods per week for one semester." The courses of study offered were four years of English; three years of History; German, and Latin; Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Algebra, Plane Geometry, Commercial Arithmetic, Manual Training, Music, and Drawing.

During the tenure of Supt. H. B. Allman (1917-1924) a Commercial department was organized with Typewriting, Bookkeeping, Shorthand, Commercial Law and Business English included in the courses. Work in Vocational Agriculture was established with eight courses in Agriculture subjects. The work in Home Economics was extended to three years' course. The Art department was developed with four years of carefully graded work. The Music department was enlarged to include work in Orchestra, Harmony, History and Dramatics. Physical training was offered to all boys and girls. This latter being made possible by the erection of a Community Gymnasium in 1922, through the cooperation of both school and community, the new plant costing \$20,000. J. H. McClure was the Athletic director and coach.

Also during Mr. Allman's administration, a new heating plant and three rooms were added to the main school building at a cost of \$25,000; and the basement was remodeled for Music Room, Cloak Room, and Supplies. The West Ward school building was remodelled for the use of Vocational Agriculture teaching. Modern equipment added to the school included visual education, 600 slides and lantern; new desks for teachers; nine typewriters, and four victrolas. The High School enrollment was increased from 164 in 1917, to 229 in 1924; and the teaching staff increased from nine to fourteen members.

Some of the persons who served on the Angola School Board during the period 1917-1924 were: M. C. Pollock, Harry Wilder, Mamie Redding, (Mrs.) Ed Spade, E. A. Goodwin, and Orville Stevens.

Following the tenure of Supt. H. B. Allman, the Angola School was for twenty-three years under the supervision of John L. Estrich. Two men closely associated with him in the work were Milo K. Certain and Clayton H. Elliott; another was

Emery Druckamiller. Two grade teachers who retired during that time were Maude Schovill who had taught 36 years in the Angola schools, and Grace Crain who had given 33 years of forty-one years as a teacher in the city schools. She taught at the North Ward building prior to coming to the Central Building. Significant also is the fact that during this twenty-three year period twelve different men served on the School Board with an average term of service of seven years. They were: A. C. Wood, Thomas Owen, Carl Casebeer, Cary E. Covell, Clinton E. Beatty, Edward Kolb, Ray Alwood, Leland Ewers, Jerold P. Essenberg, Carlton Chase, R. Wendell Jarrard, and Corneal Bratton.

Superintendent Estrich's administration was marked by a number of outstanding developments, one of the more important of which was the erection of the fine new school building in 1932. With the increased facilities the transfer of all of the school pupils from Pleasant township was accomplished in 1935, a large expansion of the teaching faculty resulting.

In 1922 the Hi-Y Club was established in the Angola High School, and in 1926 the Girl Reserves, now renamed the Y-Teen. These service clubs contribute much to the moral and social development of the pupils who avail themselves of the opportunity.

Improvements in the playground and the acquisition of additional grounds adjacent to the school property, was another accomplishment of this period of Angola school history. It is also interesting to note that during this twenty-three years period (1924-1947) there were 1200 young people graduated from the City Schools.

Perhaps the outstanding accomplishment since the tenure of W. H. Boomershine began in 1947, was the reuniting of the Angola City and the Pleasant Township School Corporations into a single School unit. The reorganization took place August 1, 1952, in compliance with certain laws providing for such procedure. School affairs are now administered by a joint School Board of five members, the present persons being Carlton Chase, Heyman Wisner, Harold Stevens, Leland Nedele, and Harold Fisher.

The present school building, constructed in 1932 with an intended capacity of near 600 pupils is now overflowing, the 1953-1954 enrollment totaling 964. Consequently the Board of Education has begun the construction of a new Elementary and Grade School Building for the Angola Metropoli-

tan schools on its real estate south and east of where the present school building stands. It is to be a modern, one-story structure of steel, concrete and glass blocks, with impervious block lining. Generally speaking the new building will consist of a central office section with wings running in each direction. And a general utility room will also be constructed at the rear part of the building. The section now under construction will cost \$248,000 when completed. This is the central and right-wing portion of the building.

In this New Grade and Elementary School Building, the central section will contain the general offices and the health department of the schools. The next section immediately to the right will include three rooms for primary and first grade pupils just entering the school, while the extended section to the right will have four other class rooms, two for second graders, and two for third graders. The class rooms will all be "self-contained," providing each with all necessary facilities. Rooms are also provided for a grade school library, and a visual education department.

Funds having already been accumulated for the building of the first unit, it is anticipated that the completion of the left wing may also be accomplished during the next few years without burdensome indebtedness. At present the Board of Education has adopted a building program which is planned to make six more class rooms available by 1957, when it is expected that the growing demand by promotions from the lower grades will be keenly felt. These later rooms will be occupied by the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades, leaving the present school building on South Wayne Street for the expansion of the seventh and eighth grades (Junior High School) and grades nine to twelve (Senior High School). It is expected that construction costs of the latter section will be reduced because of central heating and electrical installations already completed.

The architects for this new building are Mauer & Mauer of South Bend, Indiana.

The corps of teachers for the Angola City Schools in this present year, 1953-1954, numbered forty persons.

#### **Faculty of the Metropolitan Schools of Angola**

Mrs. Katy Boyer, Mrs. Barbara Burbank, Miss June Collins, Mr. E. L. Druckamiller, Mr. Howard Feldmann, Mrs. Molly Gaffin, Mr. John Hammel, Miss LaVerne Hardy, Miss Wilma Harmon, Mrs.



Gertrude Hart, Miss Thelma Hephner, Mrs. Shirley Hull, Mr. Burt Kepler, Mrs. Gladys Kile, Mr. George Kuebler, Miss Gladys Leas, Mrs. Mary Jean Biddle, Miss Vera Myers, Mrs. Mildred MacFayden, Mr. E. E. Nichols, Miss Nancy Paul, Miss Jean Pfingstag, Miss Eunice Reed, Mrs. Pauline Reichardt, Mrs. Phyllis Walker, Mr. Louis Sapp, Mr. Charles Ryan, Mrs. Catherine Schrider, Mr. Chas. Harpe, Miss Ruby Schultz, Miss Nancy Siebold, Miss Frances Smith, Miss Ruth Stevens, Miss Juanita Teegardin, Mr. Arthur Van Matre, Mr. Berl Walradth, Mrs. Elizabeth Walton.

Grade School Principal: Mr. Curt Rathburn.

High School Principal: Mr. F. K. McCutchan.

Superintendent: Mr. W. H. Boomershine.

School Board: Mr. Carlton Chase, President; Mr. Harold Stevens, Secretary; Mr. Heyman Wisner, Treasurer; Mr. Leland Nedele, Mr. Harold Fisher.

Secretaries: Mrs. Edith Kunkel, Miss Betty Servis.

Custodians: Mr. Ben H. Weldon, Mr. Richard Forbes, Mr. Harry Sowle.



### Tri-State College

*By Prof. Burton Handy,  
Former President of  
Tri-State College*

Tri-State College had its inception in the minds of a number of men in and about the community of Angola in the year 1883. These men were imbued with the idea of helping the community in its financial and cultural aspects as well as providing a place where young people might secure a training for life work in various lines. They succeeded in raising funds sufficient to purchase six acres of land lying on a wooded hill in the southwest section of Angola. They erected a frame building on the lot which is still standing and in use. A second building was constructed at the same time which was shortly totally destroyed by fire. The school was opened and classes started in 1884 under the leadership of C. E. Kircher. In 1885 Mr. Kircher was replaced by L. M. Sniff from Ada, Ohio. Professor Sniff's coming marked the beginning of 37 years of leadership during which the school grew and developed to a degree which was

truly remarkable. In 1886 a third building was erected which is still in use as the administration building of the school. About 1890 the citizens of Angola in charge of the institution turned the property over to a group of men who were teaching in the school upon their agreeing to assume the liabilities outstanding against it. These teachers formed a partnership and continued operation until 1906 when various factors combined to make it expedient to form a corporation. A reorganization was effected under a charter issued by the State of Indiana which authorized the issuance of stock in the amount of \$75,000. Stock was issued in this amount and the school was operated under this charter until 1946 at which time the stock was retired and another reorganization effected under which the school is managed by a Board of Trustees none of whom are engaged as teachers or administrative officials. It should be noted that the college has always been operated as a non-profit institution in the sense that no dividends were ever issued on outstanding stock. Indeed, one of the provisions of the charter was to the effect that no dividend could be declared.

In 1931 an event occurred which has had a marked effect upon the physical aspect of Tri-State College. In that year the second major fire in which the school has been involved destroyed the Administration Building. It became necessary to provide an auditorium, heating plant, etc. and accordingly a building program got under way which has continued to the present time. From 1931 to 1942 buildings were constructed which practically doubled the classroom capacity of the college. Since the latter date a cafeteria has been provided, a new and adequately furnished Chemical Engineering building has been constructed, housing quarters for students have been provided, more land purchased and a new library building erected. At the close of World War II much surplus material was obtained from the government for use in the laboratories and in general the buildings and other property of the school are in excellent physical condition.

The courses of study offered by Tri-State College have varied greatly through the years. At first they were almost exclusively concerned with training young people for teaching in the public schools. During the first twenty-two years of the existence of the college all that was necessary to secure a license to teach was the ability to pass a written examination. Consequently students at-

tended school for a period of twenty to thirty weeks taking subjects such as arithmetic, grammar, literature, pedagogy, etc. Then if they were successful in passing the examination they were issued a license and were privileged to try for a teaching position.

During these twenty-two years Tri-State Normal College, as it was then called, served to train literally hundreds of young men and women for the teaching profession. In addition to the teacher training courses a department of commerce was operated and work in Music and allied subject matter was offered. In addition to the courses offered for training of teachers in a few short weeks, longer ones were available leading to degrees and designed to train for teaching in high schools, the old classical and philosophy and foreign language study. No distinction was made between the high school and college curriculum so far as the work included in both of these courses was concerned. Any young man or woman might enter out of the eighth grade starting directly on the work of these courses. It was necessary for them to carry through first the work now included in the high school curriculum and from that they advanced into the higher courses without any break whatever.

In the year 1906 the educational picture in the State of Indiana was changed. Graduation from high school and a certain amount of Normal training was required by law before young people could be commissioned to teach in the public schools. In line with these new requirements the school year at Tri-State College was divided into four quarters of twelve weeks each instead of five terms of ten weeks each. The school qualified under the new law and continued to train teachers until the year 1928 when increasing pressure from the State in the way of requirements and a restricted area from which the college could draw students made it necessary to discontinue the teacher training courses entirely and the department was dropped from the college curriculum. At the same time the courses in Law which had been offered for many years were discontinued.

In the meantime in 1903 the then president of the college, L. M. Sniff, conceived the idea of building and offering courses in Engineering which would include the necessary and essential subject matter for the training of a good engineer, but omit certain other subjects which though good in themselves are not necessary for a training in

engineering work. These courses were made up on the basis of eight terms of twelve weeks each or a total of 96 weeks. They stressed subject matter such as mathematics, science, English and engineering theory and practice. Later one twelve week term was added making the course 108 weeks in length with the student finishing one of them completing 120 semester hours of study. At the present time courses are offered in Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Aeronautical, Radio and Chemical Engineering each one leading to the B. S. degree. Shorter courses, thirty-six weeks in length, are offered in Mechanical Drawing and Design and Surveying. A longer course of 144 weeks is offered consisting of any one of the Engineering courses plus thirty-six weeks work elected from the course in Business Administration leading to a B. S. degree in Administrative Engineering.

In 1928 the courses in Commerce which had been offered for many years were expanded to cover 108 weeks of study. Courses are carried at the present time in Accounting, Business Administration and Secretarial Science, each one leading to the B. S. degree. Shorter courses for training in stenographic work are also listed.

During the seventy years of the school's existence many able men and women have served as teachers and administrators. However, in a history as limited in scope as this one it is impossible to list such men and women by name and chronicle their achievements. Therefore we shall mention only those who have served the college as president during the years. C. E. Kircher was chosen to head the school at its opening. He retired at the end of the first year and was replaced by L. M. Sniff who served as president until 1909 at which time he resigned and was succeeded by J. J. Bryant who occupied the position for one year at which time Professor Sniff returned and remained until his death in 1922. Following is a list of names of men in chronological order who have occupied the President's office during these seventy years: C. E. Kircher, 1884-85; L. M. Sniff, 1885-1909; J. J. Bryant, 1909-10; L. M. Sniff, 1910-22; E. D. Long, 1922-28; C. C. Sherrard, 1928-32; G. G. Niehous, 1932-35; Burton Handy, 1935-46; C. L. Murray, 1946-47; T. T. Wood, 1949-present. During the two years 1947-48 a number of men were considered for the position by the Board of Trustees, the post finally going to Mr. Wood.

The aim and purpose of Tri-State College



through the years has been two-fold. Firstly, to offer to young men and women an opportunity to secure for themselves a training at the least possible expense and in the least possible time. Secondly, to equip these young people with a training that would enable them to go out into the world of affairs and meet successfully the competition of men and women from other schools. Such a training involves not only a knowledge of subject matter but also an underlying store of moral strength and stamina that will enable a man or woman to take his place in the community where he may live and make a worthwhile contribution to the life of the community. That the college has been successful in this effort is evidenced by the thousands of young people who have completed their courses during these seventy years and have gone out into a myriad of positions and justified the faith placed in them.



## History of Music in Steuben County

By *Arlene VanAuken Parsell*

Music has been a very important factor in the cultural development of the people in Steuben County.

The first records show, that aside from some family fireside musical groups, who either played or sang, the first aggregation was in the form of the old singing schools which were held in one room schools. Many of these gatherings took place throughout the county during the 1880's. People from several miles around would ride with a horse and buggy or sleigh to spend an evening of fun and singing with their neighbors. Typical of these sessions was the singing school held at No. 10 school, two miles southeast of Angola.

William X. Smith, a very able singing master, with his wife and six children, Guy, Ray, Fern, Beatrice and Imo, drove their horse many miles from northwest of Angola to conduct these classes. Elma Zabst, organist, with much natural ability, pumped the old reed organ to accompany the singing when needed. However, much of the singing

was unaccompanied until after the sol-fa syllables to the new songs were mastered.

Strict attention was demanded, but after the singing was finished, a social period was enjoyed.

One of the few remaining members is Mrs. Etta VanAuken Hanselman, who lists the following people as regular attendants of the No. 10 Singing School in the 1890's. William Wilcox, Guy Wilcox, Frank and Allie Thompson, Henry, Mary and Bessie Tubbs, Orlando, Della and Lura Knapp, Harlo Crusion, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cowen, Emma Cowen, George and Mary Rinehart, Ora and Lena Dutter, Amy, Etta and Horace VanAuken, John and Esther Zabst, Elma, Frank and Lora Zabst, David and Charley Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Charley Johnson.

### History of Music in Angola

Those students of Tri State College in the 1890's who enjoyed singing recall with pleasant memories the evenings after supper at the various boarding houses (one of them, Mrs. Button's), attending the singing classes, conducted by Mrs. Lora Linder. She was extremely active in community music circles and gave liberally of her time to both the college and church activities.

Miss Grace Medbury, the sister of Rev. Chas. S. Medbury, was a fine pianist who taught at the college during that time and through the early 1900's.

In 1900, Mr. A. G. Harshman of Ft. Wayne came to Angola where he began teaching voice at the college. Then later, following Miss Medbury, he also taught piano and organ. In 1902, Mrs. Harshman, an accomplished organist from Ft. Wayne, joined Mr. Harshman and together their musical influence has done much in raising the standards of music in Angola, until the death of Mr. Harshman in 1946.

In 1905, Leo Long Todd, a resident of this community, who had become an outstanding singer in New York City, persuaded Mr. Harshman to unite the Church Choirs of Angola in presenting Spring Oratorios. The first one was performed in 1906. The less difficult works such as "The Holy City" were used at first, then later, "The Messiah," "The Creation," and "The Seasons" were sung. Among those people who sang in the Chorus were: Mrs. Emma Sheets, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Douglass, Mr. and Mrs. Mack Fisher, Edward D. Willis, Earl Moss, Luella Rempus, Allee Leininger, Bess, Mar-

jorie and Hazel Burkhardt, Burdette Goodale, Dorothy Rakestraw Hull, Henry Eisele, and Gertrude Carlin, along with many others which numbered nearly one hundred.

Zanna Rakestraw Hansen served as accompanist for one year. This group was known as the Angola Choral Society.

Interest grew through the untiring efforts of Mr. Harshman and in 1909 the May Festivals were started and continued for approximately six years. These were two day events and consisted of presentations of concerts with name guest soloists from Chicago as leading attractions. To assist in these occasions, Mr. Alfred Holsworth, organist from Ft. Wayne, came to Angola and later became a resident.

During the early 1900's, other people were prominent musically, among whom were Mabel Cook who graduated from the Oberlin College of Music and later became organist at the Methodist Church, also Anna Sniff Mitchell who was organist at the Christian Church for several years. Mrs. Mitchell may be remembered for her direction of the "Old Folks' Concert" which was a take-off on old fashioned singing.

In the early 1920's, Mildred Bailey Johnson and Anna Wambaugh Mast became widely known as concert singers. Pauline Wambaugh was well known as an accomplished vocalist.

Interest in piano study was high in the early 1900's and as a result those who enjoyed serious music organized "The Piano Club." The members were: Mrs. A. G. Harshman, Mrs. L. C. Stiefel, Grace Medbury, Nora and Clara Burt, Mrs. W. H. Lane, Mrs. Al Elston, Mamie Allison, Elizabeth Walts, and Irene Sniff.

Blanche Malcolm Peck, pianist; Nellie Caswell, vocalist and pianist; Mr. Harshman, Blanche Sopher, vocalist; Fred Richardson, Band Director and Cornetist; and Leighton Wells, Clarinetist; were fine teachers in the 1920's and 30's who, along with the public school music teachers and parental guidance, influenced many young people to give serious study to music. Among those were: Hilda Cline, Wilma Dick Hall, Willa Dick Erickson, Eloise Willis, Anna Marie Yotter, Miriam Louise Stevens Brokaw, Evelyn Snowberger, Velma Apple Begin, Dorothy Long Newnam, Hortense Cramer, Mary and Loretta Sanders, Malinda Shank and Hobart and Maurice Grimes, who are both professional musicians in Chicago.

At the present time (1954) the piano teachers consist of: Miriam Louise Stevens Brokaw, Velma Apple Begin, Willa Dick Erickson and Miriam Ramsay.

There are many fine organists in Angola at present, however those who are contributing to the success of the church music as official organists are: Lulu Grimes Carver at the Congregational Church, Mrs. Mary Kiess at the Methodist Church and Mrs. Crouch at the First Church of Christ.

Of considerable significance is the influence the public school music supervisors have made in inspiring young people to a deeper appreciation for finer music and in some cases to study it further in college and conservatories. In the more recent years, Mr. E. J. Gatwood, William Sur, Lloyd Oakland, Mr. Trumbull and the present supervisor, Elwood Nichols, have done excellent work in stimulating that interest. The present high school musical organizations have taken high honors in both district and state contests.

Among those who have recently graduated from high school and are doing notable work musically are: Robert Zimmer, violinist; and now playing with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra; Valerie Erickson, pianist and flutist; and now a student at Michigan State College; and Don Bill Chaddick, pianist and composer, who graduated (1954) from the Chattanooga Conservatory of Music.

To delve more deeply into the details of recent musical activities in Angola, would be repetitious since these events and personalities have been covered under the headings of "Frances Elliott Clark Music Club," "The Evening Musicale," and "History of Bands in Steuben County."

### **Steuben Township and Pleasant Lake**

Music has been much in evidence in Steuben Township from the time the pioneers settled the area in the early 1830's.

The first singing school was held at the home of Abner Winsor, who himself was a musician. Simeon Aldrich was the teacher of both music and penmanship. He used a tuning fork to secure pitch and his pupils sang accurately without the aid of other musical instruments.

Lemmon Tuttle, the father of Chester V. Tuttle, once traded a yoke of oxen for a violin. Mr. Tuttle will be remembered for his love of good music. Chester V. Tuttle, his son, organized Pleasant



Lake's first band in 1878. Among those men who were the first members of that band were: Dock McMillen, Will McHenry, George McHenry, Harry McHenry, Elias Hamlin, Samuel Freeman, James Murray and Sam Mortorff.

Perhaps no one deserves more credit for the musical appreciation of the instrumentalists in the community than W. E. Tuttle, whose patience and untiring efforts are seen in the tutoring of young people in playing instruments, during the last half century.

Among the early settlers who were outstanding vocalists were John Ransburg and his family. His daughter, Ella Ransburg Robertson, did much to encourage and worked with Orlando Huffman, Melvin Huffman, Frank Ransburg and Al Conkle in forming the first men's quartette, which later became the Elite Quartette with Emmett Ingalls, Mark Ransburg, Carl Ingalls and Shirley Gilbert as its members. This group sang for such prominent speakers as Newton W. Gilbert, J. Frank Hanley, and Albert J. Beveridge. This quartette was active from approximately 1890 to 1920.

During the first thirty-five years of the 1900's, Letta Deller, Lena Goodwin, Ella Ransburg Robertson, Lulu Cogswell Tuttle, Gertrude Mitchell Ransburg, Reba Swynehardt Anstett, Gertrude Ransburg Gilbert, were definite influences in the United Brethren Church in furnishing outstanding church music, from which many of the youth gained inspiration.

Also there were those in the Baptist congregation who, during that time and to the present, are contributing much to carry on the musical tradition of the community. They are Bessie Matson, Mabel Huffman Ferris, Berta Wolf McAlpin, Harry and Vetta Tuttle.

Beginning in 1925, and extending through the 30's, music contests among the township high schools, were sponsored by the County Educational system. Pleasant Lake carried top honors for a period of five consecutive years, then intermittently thereafter. Vocal solo winners were: Dorothy Metz, Arlene VanAuken, Betty Gilbert and Doris Enfield. Small vocal group winners consisted of those mentioned, plus Margaret Chasey, Dorothy Pfingstag, Betty Tuttle, Isabelle Grim, and Virginia Harpham.

Dee and Dale Harpham, who are now with the United States Marine Band; Phillip Huffman, now with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Winton and Harold Huffman, Gordon Hardy, Carl

Strock, Paul Miller, Lawrence Gilbert, Berta Wolf, Virginia Harpham, Evelyn Harpham, Marjorie Hardy and Dorothy Pfingstag were among those who won high honors as instrumentalists.

Maureen and Helen Huffman, Lloyd Gilbert, John Gilbert, Paul Ransburg, June Watson Chasey Paul Chasey and Arden Imhoff, will be remembered by many as generous givers either vocally or instrumentally of their talents during the 1920's and some to the present. Maureen Huffman is now a professional musician on both radio and stage; Lloyd Gilbert followed a professional music career for many years.

At the Northeastern Indiana Eisteddfodd in 1936 and 1937, Arlene VanAuken was winner of the vocal solo; Betty Gilbert, Margaret Chasey and Arlene VanAuken, were winners of the vocal trio; and Ross Gilbert, Robert Ransburg, Betty Gilbert, and Arlene VanAuken, were winners of the mixed quartette.

Those who have followed music as a career are: Mabel Huffman Ferris, who graduated from music school in the early 20's, then sang professionally, later taught privately, and is now director of the Baptist Church Choir; Arlene VanAuken Parsell, in the Elkhart, Indiana, City School, and is now director of the Congregational Church Choir in Angola; Margaret Chasey Ford, who graduated from Olivet College in 1932, and taught music in Pleasant Lake and Angola, and is now teaching privately at Midland, Mich.; Beverly Lepley and Clara Lou Stuttler who graduated from the Ball State Music School in 1941, and are now teaching music in Public Schools; and Jeanella Miller who also graduated from Ball State in 1952, and is now teaching music in the Coldwater, Mich., schools.

Of considerable significance have been the traditional Lions Club Minstrel Shows, which were begun in the 1930's and with the exception of a very few years have held an annual performance at Thanksgiving, up to the present. Gerald Fuller is the musical director. The singers throughout the years have included: Mark, Dean and Robert Ransburg; Shirley Gilbert, Roger, Lawrence and Charles Gilbert; Horace and Basil VanAuken; Ormsby Lyons; Don and Louis Swift; Dudley Bevier; Wilbur Ulmer; Riley Lemmon, John Matson; Cecil Lepley; Robert Ferris; Herbert Alleshouse; John Harpham; Herbert Moore; Paul Ransburg; Roy Miller; John and William Stock; Carl Priest; Ray Upson; Max Huss; and John

Glasgow. Vetta Tuttle, Mabel Ferris, and Maxine Enfield Wolf have served as able accompanists through the years. Basil VanAuken, Carl Priest, Roy Miller and Jim Stock, comprised a male quartette, which during 1952 and 1953, did much singing for community events and church services.

Those who have very recently graduated from high school and are active musically in the community are Louis Swift, Lois Swift Sassinella, Darlene VanAuken, Carol Ann Strophagel and Mary Ann Brayton.

### Music in Hamilton and Otsego Township

The first record of musical activity in Hamilton was the singing school. In the 1860's Judge Bowersox was a school teacher here and the singing teacher. The students were taught to sing by note and one of the books used was "Song Magic." Later teachers were a Mr. Fisher and a Mr. Hartley. These singing schools were held in the Methodist Church which stood where the Wesleyan Methodist now stands.

From these singing schools, later, choirs were developed. One of the first choir leaders in the community was George Willennar, about 1900.

The first instrumental band was organized about 1882 with John Gnagy as leader and Roger Houlton as instructor. Members of this band were: Guy Gnagy, George Gnagy, Henry Mathews, Bert Oberlin, Billy Beecher, Lewis Houlton and Luther Albright. In 1885 Cyrus B. Dirrim and Mack Waller joined the band and Ira Swift became the leader.

About 1905, an orchestra was organized in Hamilton with Ora Swift as leader. Some of the members of this group were: Lydia Hammond, Clyde Sharp, Glen Gnagy, and Ford Swift.

Among the early music teachers were: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Thomas, who taught piano and voice and Claudia Bender, who taught piano. Beulah Cameron came from Edon to give piano lessons here. In 1910, Lottie B. Masters began teaching piano training with Arthur Kortleir in Toledo and Albert Lockwood in Ann Arbor. Today, (1954) Mrs. Gerald Everetts teaches piano here.

Since the 1920's, music has been an important part of our school program. Today (1954) we have a school band of 47 members which rates high in the state. They play for all school and civic functions.

The Methodist Church today (1954) has an ac-

tive choir of twenty members. Mrs. Wesley Lindahl is the director of the group and Mrs. Torsten Gyllsdorff, Jr., is the organist.

### Music in Hudson

Mrs. M. J. Pike who is 90 years old and lives with her daughter Mrs. Carl Hardy in Hudson, tells of the first singing school she remembers in Hudson. She did not participate, being too small, but loved to go with her parents and listen. This was over 80 years ago. At that time the U. B. Church was North of Hudson ½ mile (now Holsinger's Corners).

The singing classes of the Singing School were held there. The singing teacher was Otis Wisel. He taught all who attended to sing by note. Before that time, only words of the songs were in the hymnals. Later at the same location, Stephen Ransburg conducted singing every Sunday afternoon. Young people came from miles around to sing at 3 P.M. Some even came from as far away as Waterloo.

At about this same time (1876-1883), a band was organized at Hudson. This proved to be a popular form of entertainment. Emory Johnston, 92 years old, and Hudson's oldest resident at the present time, tells of this band of which he was a member. Salem, Fremont, and Orland also had bands then and all four of these, including Hudson, had the same director and used the same music. Frequently, these four bands combined and played for occasions at Angola. The members of this early Hudson Band were as follows: John Miller, Solo Alto Horn; Wm. Smathers, Base Horn; Sumner Bixler, Piccolo; Nelson Towns, Clarinet; Charles Ropp, Baritone; John Beck, Tenor; Elmer Ransburg, Solo B Flat Horn; Frank Cox, Second Alto; Harry Ling, E Flat; Charles Ling, first Alto; David Ling, second tenor; Ed. Ling, Bass Drum; Marshall Johnston, Snare Drum; Emory Johnston, Baritone Alto and Tenor Horn; Grant Dunlap, B Flat; Charles Dunlap, Bass Tuba.

Between the years of 1923-1930, Hudson enjoyed a revival of music. G. O. Simpson was County Supt. and employed a county music supervisor who made an instrument available to every child in the county who desired it. Under the direction of Harold Harman, who taught at Hudson, the Hudson School developed a very fine orchestra and vocal group. These two groups, also the lower grade group, won first place in the County Music Contest for several years.



The members of this orchestra and band were as follows: (With apologies to any omitted)

Gordon Hardy, Carl Strock, Ardell Hardy, Marjory Hardy, Dorothy Pfingstag, Charlton Pike, James Pike, Dorothy Whittig, Harold Reinoehl, Howard Reinoehl, Kay Hart, Max Smathers, Kedric Smathers, Roberta Smathers, Marie Leas, Iola Gaetz, Cecil Shipe, Lyle Leas, Lawrence Leas, Keith Tubbs, Kenneth Cook, Glendora Chamberlain, Evelyn Wysong, Carl Shipe, Maxine Zonker, Irene Parker, Augusta Richards, Fay Tubbs, Wendell Tubbs.

The County Music supervisors were: Miss Bee-ler, Miss Terry, Miss Martin, Alice Hanna, Miss Sellers, Mr. H. L. Bland, Dave Hughes, Rush Hughes, Mr. Doty, Wilma Dick, Dorothy Fee and Dorothy Pfingstag.

### **Music in Metz and York Township**

The first music in and about Metz is traced back to Fred Thomas, who in 1887 conducted the first singing school and also served as minister of the local church.

Ira Strong took up the work following Fred Thomas and was succeeded by various music teachers from Edon and Columbia, who carried on through the years until Mabel Williams began teaching piano in 1925.

Among those who were musicians in their own right were: Elmus Barron, 1880, a violinist, and father of John Allman; Mac Waller, 1900, also a violinist; Bert Brandeberry and Dr. Charles Goodale, 1886, who were singers; Ford North, father of Mrs. C. E. Elliott, and Jake Sickles were singers; Burdette Goodale, Ford, Paul, and Mildred Goodale and Fred Fast, around 1900, did much singing.

From 1890 to 1940, Mrs. Claude Killinger, Mrs. Fred Fast, and Mrs. Evilo Harter were leaders in the vocal field.

Dorothy Fee Bryan followed music as a career, teaching for a number of years in the county schools and is now employed in the Flint School.

Mrs. Donald Gilbert and Mrs. Donald Kunkle are teaching piano in Metz at the present time.

### **History of Music in Fremont**

William Heath, a native of Massachusetts, came to Steuben County in 1848, and resided on a farm near Fremont. He inherited a talent for music and became one of the most popular and successful music teachers in Northern Indiana. His daughter

Belle, a student of Boston Conservatory, was an accomplished musician. She was married to Professor A. M. Holbrook, a musician of wide repute who at the time of his death, was said to be the second best cornetist in the United States. Their daughter, Teresa Holbrook Winslow was a noted violinist in the Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra. One of Mrs. Winslow's star violin pupils was Ella Clark Brown.

Mrs. Winslow's mother, Belle Holbrook, had a large piano class in 1900. Many pupils were attracted to her because of her pleasing manner. Each year she gave a recital at which time the pupil having done the best work was given an award. In 1903, Lelah Friday Gilbert received that recognition. She was nine years old.

Jessie and Nellie Caswell received their musical education at Boston Conservatory and during the early 1900's taught voice and instrumental music in their studio, located at their home.

Another talented pianist during this era was Ina Michael Twichel, who received training first at Tri State College and later studied in Fort Wayne. Alice Taylor and Edith Walters, were instrumentalists who taught around 1900.

Harry and Otha Ling were leaders in organizing an all girl band around 1918. It was later directed by Fred Richardson of Angola. Some of the members of that band were: Blanche Gier Gary, Madeline Clark Sutton, Rosamond and Geraldine McNaughton, Lucy and Clara Ewing, Wilma and Bess Wade, Marie and Jessie Williamson, Wava Pinchon, Inez Allen, Lola Rice and Ethel Gill Koch.

Blanche Gier Gary was a strong musical influence in Fremont from 1923 to 1943. She graduated from the Indiana University School of Music then returned to Fremont to teach in the public schools. She directed the girls' glee club and mixed choruses. Especially, is she remembered for her fine ability as an accompanist. Her outstanding music students were: Pauline Schaeffer and Geraldine Deller Jones. The latter sang over WOWO for several years. She had her own fifteen minute program once a week. Her accompanist was Mrs. Gary. Helen Hanson Whaley also did a great deal of vocal solo work in the community. One of Mrs. Gary's best piano pupils was Beulah Sailor Taylor.

At a later date, Lee Duguid did much in directing the band and teaching instrumentally.

The present public school music teachers are: Mr. John Long, band instructor; and Katherine Latier, vocal music teacher.

Mary Katherine Lippencott Crandall, a graduate of Ball State College of Music is an accomplished vocalist and instrumentalist and is active musically in both the church and community activities.

The material for this phase of the history has been very graciously presented by Mrs. Blanche Gier Gary, Mrs. Lelah Friday Gilbert, and Mrs. Pearle Failing Watters. Mrs. Watters is the only surviving member of the early Fremont musicians. She always took an active part in all musical circles and sang in the Methodist Church Choir for fifteen years.

#### **Music in Orland and Millgrove Township**

The old fashioned singing school conducted by C. C. Case, formed a large part of the social life in Orland during its early history. Orland has produced many fine musicians, among them Bert Brown, who was cornet soloist for John Phillip Sousa and later with Gilmores Band.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Salisbury had charge of the choir of the Congregational Church for many years. Mr. Salisbury had the choir and Mrs. Salisbury played the organ. Later, their daughter had a large class of piano pupils. Mr. and Mrs. Chester Harper conducted the music for the Baptist Church, which was destroyed by fire several years ago. Choir practice was conducted in the homes on Friday evening. Mrs. John Parker opened her home for these meetings for many years. Later, Mrs. Frank Parker did also.

A ladies' quartette composed of Nellie Wilder Dudley, Julia Fox Fast, Jenny Whitney and Florette Bonney sang on many occasions, also gave recitals.

#### **Music History of Jackson Township**

Centered around the Barr family, Luke Barr, a very good bass singer studied at Hillsdale College and later organized and conducted Singing Schools, which were held in school houses and churches in and around Jackson Township.

These classes were continued by his son, Chas. F. Barr, who later taught piano. He was assisted some by Nellie Mundy, who sang alto.

Other piano teachers worthy of mention were: Mary Richener, Ona Grabill, Arthur Goodrich, Mary Erma Wilson and Alma Wilson Bell.

NOTE: Grateful recognition is hereby given to

the people who so graciously assisted in compiling the "History of Music in Steuben County." They are as follows: Mrs. A. G. Harshman, who was the source of much of the information given in the Angola Chapter; Lelah Friday Gilbert and Mrs. Pearle Failing Watters, who contributed the Music History of Fremont; Mrs. Claude Killinger, who was the source of the Metz Music History; Mrs. Jo Ellingwood, who did Orland and Millgrove; Vera Mundy Sams, who submitted the Music History of Jackson Township; and Gertrude Leonard Crain, who contributed the Hamilton and Otsego Township Chapter.

#### **Steuben County Bands and Orchestras**

*By Roy C. Bodie, Jr.*

In the early 1880s organized bands had their beginning in Steuben County.

The Angola Amateur Band was organized in 1883 by Gaylord Cary. The first director was Chancey Gaylord, followed by Thomas Welch, John Staley, Harm Freygang, and Lincoln Miller. Fred Richardson became the director in the year 1897, and continued as the conductor until the Band was discontinued sometime during the year 1940. Under the leadership of Mr. Richardson, the Angola Band became one of the most outstanding in Northern Indiana.

Ford Ball organized what was called the Pleasant Lake Juvenile Band. Shortly after, Worthy Tuttle—outstanding cornetist—became director and held that position through the years until his retirement. Chancey Gaylord and Worthy Tuttle were prominent musicians who played for a number of years in the Pleasant Lake Band.

The Fremont Band was organized in the year 1880. Aaron Holbrook was the director and a fine cornetist. In later years, Fremont had a Girls' Band, conducted first by Harry Long, and later by Fred Richardson.

Another Band during this time was the Hamilton Band. It was started in the year 1882 with John Gnagy as leader and Roger Houlton as instructor.

About 1880 Hudson organized a Band. Emory Johnston, 92 years old, tells of this band of which he was a member. The bands of Hudson, Fremont, Salem, and Orland, had the same director and used the same music. Frequently these four bands combined and played for occasions at Angola.



From these organizations came some of the country's finest musicians. Bert Brown, from Orland, was recognized as one of the great cornet players of all time. He was soloist for John Philip Sousa, Arthur Pryor, and Bachman's Million Dollar Band. Leighton Wells and James Austin were recognized as outstanding clarinetists. They played with John Philip Sousa, Arthur Pryor, and other organizations. Among other individuals who became prominent were: Dale Harpham and his brothers of Pleasant Lake, now with the United States Marine Band, Ray Heath, Hamilton, and Maurice and Hobart Grimes, Angola.



### Theatricals

By Mrs. Ben Gordon

"God conceived the world, that was poetry;  
He framed it, that was sculpture;  
He colored it, that was painting;  
He peopled it with living beings;  
That was the grand, divine, eternal drama."

—Charlotte Cushman

The first real center of self-expression and interpretation in the community came with the birth and colorful history of the Croxton Opera House. We are indebted to Charles E. Elya for recalling these times for us. The gala opening was a production of "Burglar" in 1894 by a New York Company. On February 21st and 22nd in 1901 "Human Hearts" was presented by a local cast under the direction of F. L. Adams, better known as "Doc." The play was repeated in August of that year on Old Settlers' Day. From then on, during the winter season, several plays were staged by this "Dramatic Company." Some of the members of this company were: Frank Adams, Frank Bassett, Carver Wood, Guy Shaughness, Jack Ochs, Royal Carpenter, Gordon Phinney, Ralph Burkhart, Billy Parsons, Joe Brokaw, Charles E. Elya, Clyde Carlin, Charles E. Shank, Fred W. Elya, Blanche Reader, Nora Kemery, Elsie McCrory, Tress Moss, Myrtle Shank, Lela Morse, Wilma Carpenter, Nellie Bailey, Blanche Kemery,

Burton Sickles, Bess Burkhart, Dot Gibson, Effie Eisele, and Anna Brooks. Over a period of years the company produced such outstanding plays as **The Virginian, Way Down East, Arizona, Ole Olson, Brown's in Town, Young Mrs. Winthrop, Captain Rockett, Queen's Evidence, The Eagle's Nest, Davy Crockett, and Charlie's Aunt.**

In 1907, Charles Elya took over the management of the Croxton Opera House and brought to Steuben County audiences outstanding Broadway plays. Among the stars were May Irwin in **She Knows Better Now**, Tommy Ross in **The Only Son**, Eugene Blair in **The Eternal City**, Ivan Robertson, famous British actor, in **The Passing of the Third Floor Back**, and Walter Whitman in **The Mummy and the Humming Bird** (Lionel Barrymore played the organ-grinder in this cast). Mr. Elya brought such extravaganzas as the David Belasco production of **The Girl of the Golden West, When Knighthood Was in Flower**, and the George M. Cohan production of **Madam X, The Pink Lady, The Chocolate Soldier, The Prince of Pilsen, The Cat and the Fiddle**, George Sidney in **Busy Izzy** (Ben Turpin who became a star in motion pictures appeared with Sidney), and **The Red Mill** were then some of the most popular musicals brought here. During these years Eddie Bayles Co., a repertoire company, played here during Fair Week.

In 1912, under the direction of Charles Edwin Shank, a group called the Comedy Club on the campus of Tri-State College was organized. They presented the regular college operas using discarded costumes and props from the University of Michigan's elaborate Mimes Productions. As Tri-State College grew, more student activities developed. An annual event was College Stunt Night on Halloween. This activity took the form of elaborate parades representing different schools of the college, the burning of college professors in effigy, then a Rally in the Opera House. This activity disintegrated into a rally downtown with Halloween pranks that drew acute attention from the State Police. To re-direct this activity and fill a yearning for serious dramatic expression, the Tri-State Dramatic Club was organized, holding weekly meetings and presenting eight plays a year and Stunt Night at the College Auditorium. Mr. Shank was on the college faculty teaching Speech. (A biography of Charles E. Shank may be found in the Biographical Section of this history.) Since most of the student body at the College were

males, some likely local lassies took their first steps on "the boards" in ensuing endeavors. Beautifully lighted and mounted productions were the result. A few of these were **High Tor**, **Erstwhile Susan**, **Hay Fever**, **The Late Christopher Bean**, **Pigs**, **A Christmas Carol** (Dickens), **Everyman**, **The Upper Room**, **Creatures of Impulse** (Gilbert and Sullivan). On the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Tri-State College Dramatic Club the announcement was made:

"Tri-State College and College Dramatic Club  
presents

CORNELIA OTIS SKINNER

in Recital

Christian Church May 17, 1941

Tri-State College Dramatic Club will celebrate its tenth anniversary with a Drama Festival to be held May 15 to 17. A Marionette Show, a dramatized history of the Dramatic Club, two one-act plays, the Annual Dramatic Club Dinner and Dance and a Recital by Cornelia Otis Skinner on May 17 will climax the Festival.

All students and friends of the school are asked to join in the celebration."

Miss Skinner played to a capacity audience.

In 1932, the combined efforts of College, High School, and local thespians united in dedicating the New High School auditorium with the initial "home-town" attempt at a Shakespearean production. Mr. Shank directed, designed sets, and portrayed an able Shylock in **The Merchant of Venice**.

The interest in and local reception of this presentation culminated in the construction of the Sniff Memorial Outdoor Stage on the southeast corner of the campus. These alumni players presented a cycle of six of Shakespeare's Comedies—one each summer. According to the News-Sentinel Rotagravure May 8, 1948, which carried several pictures, the activity attracted at least statewide attention. These presentations were made with all humility to the classics, seriously following Shakespearean traditions.

When Mr. Shank's formal relations with Tri-State College terminated in 1946, several interested people in Angola met with Charles, and the Angola Civic Theatre, Inc., was born. The organization consisted of an impressive list of Honorary Members, Sustaining Patrons (theatre "angels"), Patrons (lesser "angels") and members. As an opening announcement to over 400 invited

guests, a tea was held on December 17 in the High School Auditorium, the organization's prospectus was unfolded, and the first production plans announced.

This group made its debut in the community with **I Remember Mama**, in the High School Auditorium. They strived in every way to provide a happy, rewarding evening in Theatre. The ushers were patrons, the programs outstanding, histrionics, properties, and settings were done with authenticity. Some of the plays that followed **Mama** were **January Thaw**, **Dear Ruth**, **Family Portrait**, **Papa Is All**, **George Washington Slept Here**, **Tenting Tonite**, **John Loves Mary**, **Years Ago**, **Ladies in Retirement**, **The Late Christopher Bean**, **The Young and Fair**, **Nothing But the Truth**, and **The Family Upstairs**.

A delightful and ambitious addition to the regular schedule was the formation of the Children's Theatre. In all the glory of authentic costumes and music **The Emperor's New Clothes** was a spectacular production in the High School Auditorium.

In keeping with the new trends of theatre, nothing daunted this group and **Erstwhile Susan** was revived and presented in the round or arena style in the Armory building. The second children's play, **Hansel and Gretel**, was beautifully presented in this style.

The omission of names of those participating in recent local productions may be unfortunate but it was with meditation. They were numerous—there was no "set company." During these years many people gave of their time and talents and were fully rewarded for having had an experience in theatre under the direction of Mr. Shank. His ability to pick from the many the unsuspected underlying talent to portray a part was uncanny. Hence, casts under his direction were composed of many. Rather than risk an omission or fill this entire volume, all names are omitted. Those of us who received direction and an undying love for the theatre under his teachings have received our reward.

This group held annual summer picnics with pretentious programs during August at Pokagon State Park. In later years they were invited to present their program in the large lobby of Pottawatomie Inn. As many as 365 to 425 people attended these picnics which served as a reunion for many people coming home for summer vacation.

All Angola Civic Theatre productions were aug-



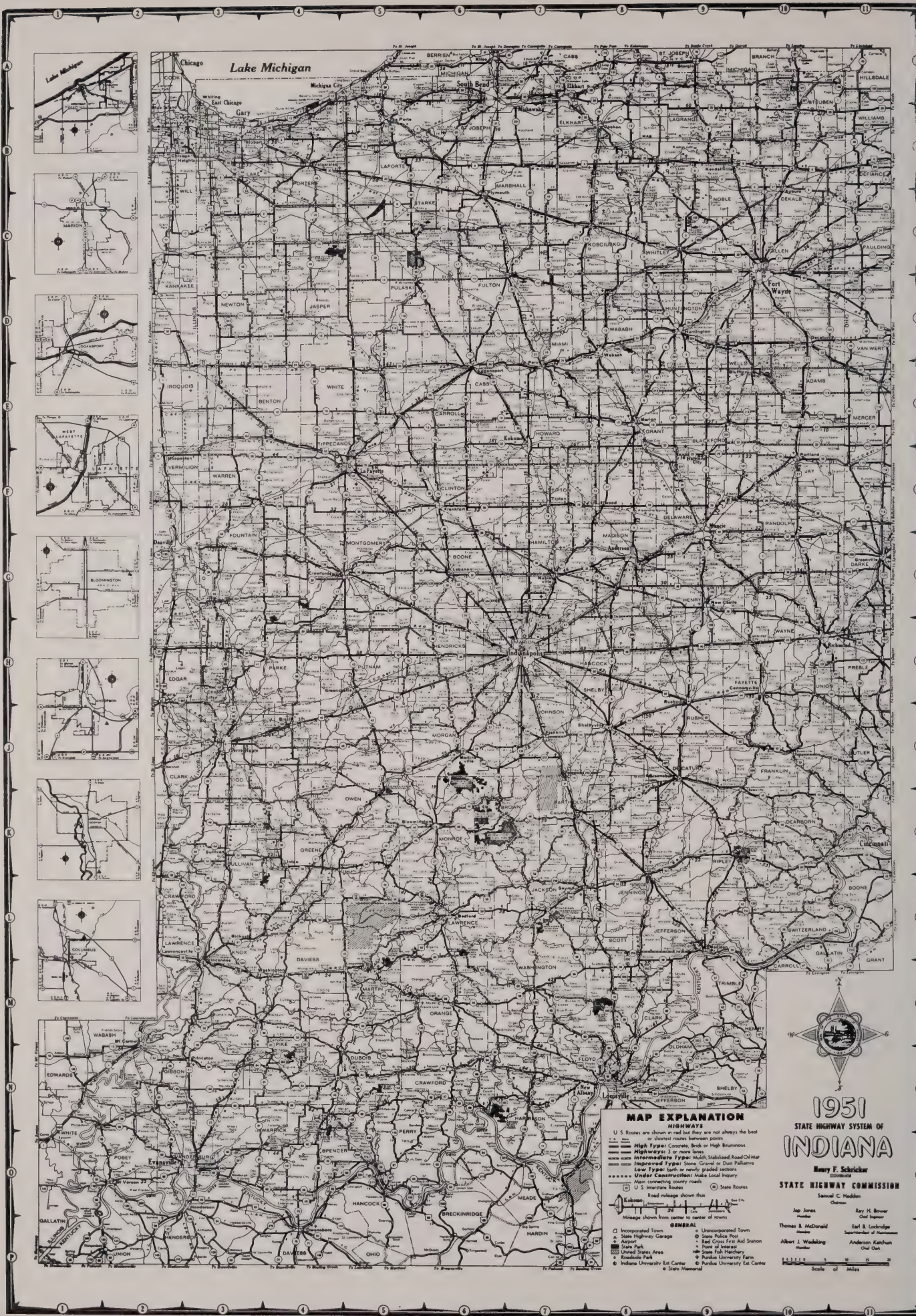
mented by the Angola Civic Theatre orchestra—professional in performance—who gave much to the enjoyment and atmosphere of an evening with the living theatre.

As this history goes to press, the dissolvment of the Angola Civic Theatre, Inc., is in progress.

It brings down a sad curtain for those of us who participated—as Mr. Elya quoted in giving us a summary of the earlier days, “The moving finger writes, and having writ, moves on.” Only the next edition of Steuben County History will recall the future.

## Atlas Section





**MAP EXPLANATION**

U. S. Routes are shown in red but they are not always the best or shortest routes between points.

**HIGHWAYS**

- High Types: Concrete, Brick or High Bituminous
- Highways: 3 or more lanes
- Intermediate Types: Width Substandard Road Old Main
- Improved Types: Stone, Gravel or Dust Fillings
- Low Types: Earth or newly graded sections
- Under Construction: Make Local Inquiry
- Main connecting county roads
- U. S. Interstate Routes
- State Routes

Road mileage shown thus:

Mileage shown from center to center of towns

**GENERAL**

- Incorporated Town
- State Highway Garage
- Airport
- State Park
- United States Area
- Roadside Park
- Indiana University Let. Center
- State Memorial
- Unincorporated Town
- State Police Post
- Rail Cross First Aid Station
- Power of Interest
- State Fair Territory
- Purdum University Farm
- Purdum University Let. Center
- State Memorial

**1951**

STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM OF  
**INDIANA**

Henry F. Schrick  
Commissioner

STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Samuel C. Madden  
Chairman

Ray H. Brown  
Chief Engineer

Thomas B. McDonald  
Member

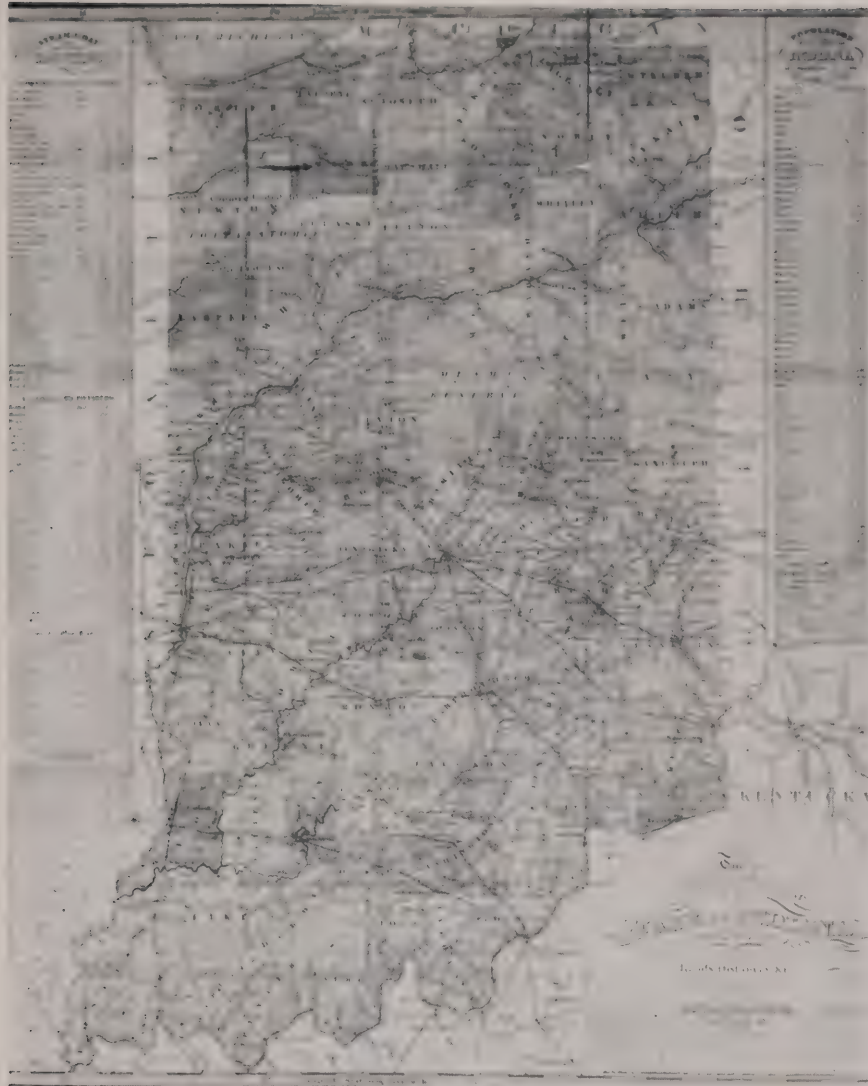
Albert J. Wadkins  
Member

Earl B. Laddridge  
Secretary of Transportation

Anderson Ketchum  
Chief Clerk

Scale of Miles



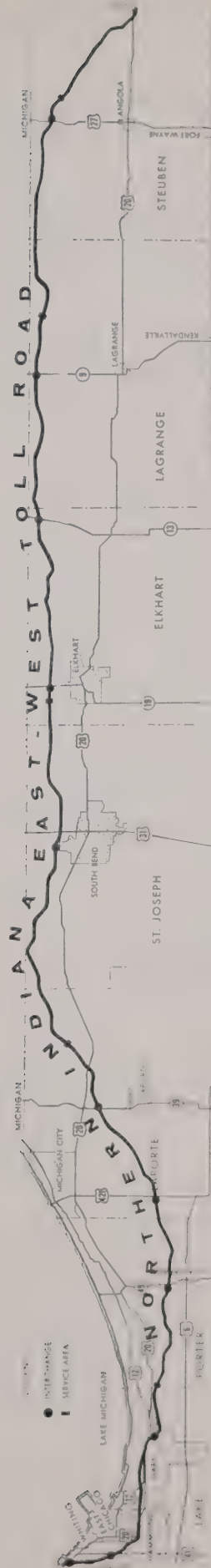


Shown above is an ancient map of Indiana which will provide you with a happy hour reminiscing and noting the growth of this Recreation-Plus county. Steuben has always been peopled by an industrious, progressive, and proud citizenry. Today the many Associate Editors of this History, Biographical and Pictorial Album have provided a legacy to posterity and a text book for students and our present day population. Hundreds have cooperated in providing old pictures, old data, and interesting facts about our progress and prosperity. This map was in the possession of Maurice McClew, handed down to him from his grandfather, Erastus Farnum, who was our second County Surveyor. Dave Jordan, one of our cooperators and well-wishers, borrowed the map preserved under glass in a fine frame. He took it over to Dean Cline, the photographer, another of our cooperators, who photographed it, so that we might send it to the engraving company to have this engraved illustration made. It will interest you to note that this map was made much over a hundred years ago, in fact in 1836, soon after this county was born. The population of Allen County was 996, St. Joseph County was 287. It refers to the ceding of the territory by the Potawatomies to the United States and reveals much other historical data. No towns were indicated in Steuben County.

Indiana had a population of	343,031
White Males	175,885
Do. Females	163,514
Total Whites	339,399
Colored Males	1857
Do. Females	1772
Total Free Colored	3,629
Total Free	343,028
Slaves—Males—None	
Do. Females—3	3
Total	343,031









# MAP OF STEBEN COUNTY, INDIANA

DON GILBERT COUNTY SURVEYOR

SCALE: MILES

**LEGEND**  
ROADS  
CONCRETE  
DITCHES  
OPEN  
TILE  
BUILDINGS  
RAILROADS  
BUSINESS

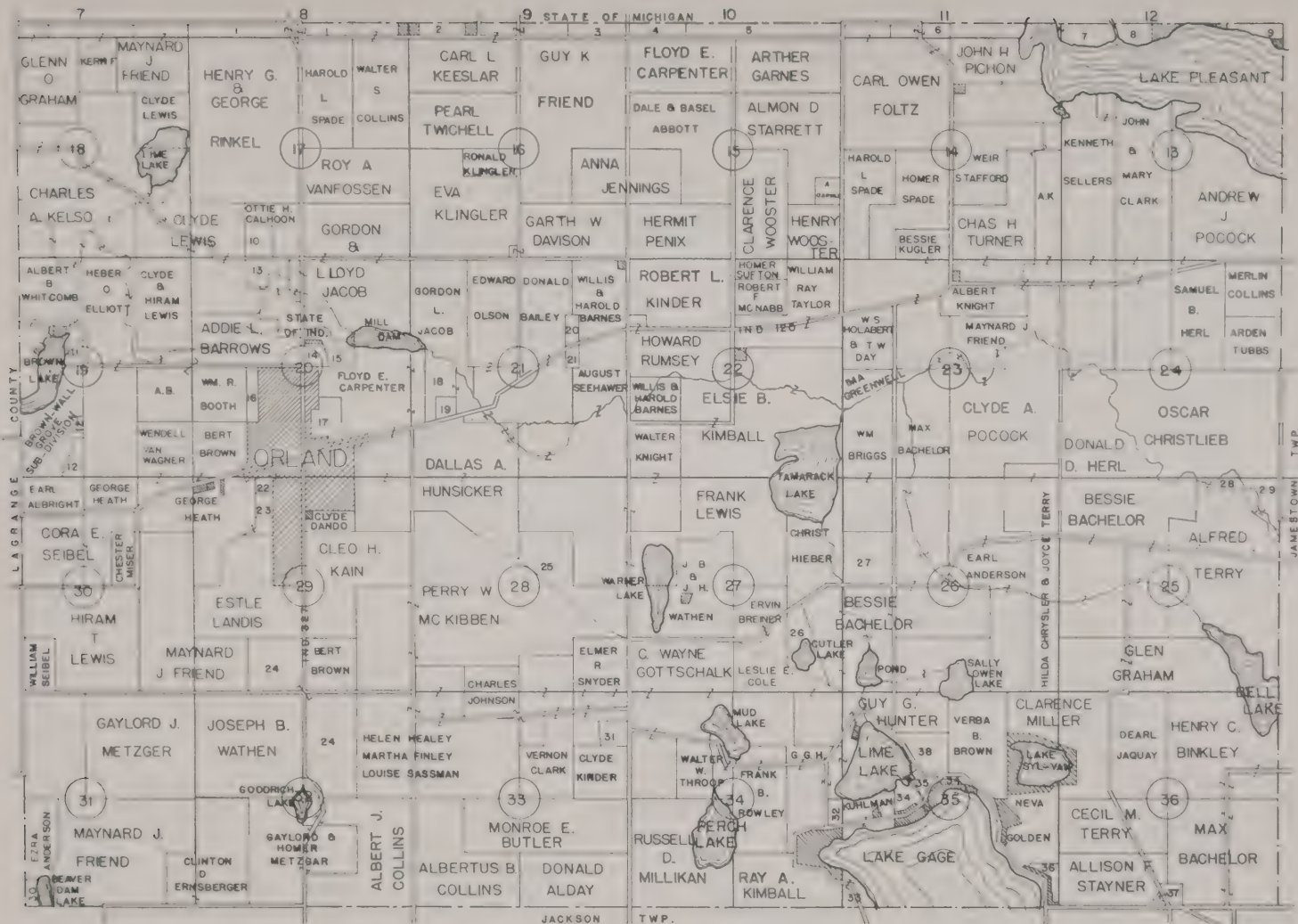
INDICATES TOLL RD GOES OVER  
UNDER  
no structure planned

STATE OF MICHIGAN





## MILLGROVE TOWNSHIP



The first to settle in Millgrove Township, and on the present site of the Village of Orland, was in 1834, when John Stocker and others from Vermont located in sections 20 and 29, of what is now known as Millgrove Township.

Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, Clarence R. Thomas; 2, Maynard J. Friend; 3, Anna Jennings; 4, Louis Pabst; 5, Marshall Fair; 6, George E. Beier; 7, Emery J. Wilkins; 8, Loretta Carr; 9, Elizabeth Unrue Kring; 10, Oerri O. Johnan; 11, Frank E. DeVolder; 12, Curtis L. Jones; 13, Audree Seibel Lewis; 14, Maynard J. Friend; 15, Town of Orland; 16, Woodrow Whalen; 17, Clinton D. Ernsberger; 18, Cemetery Ass'n.; 19, Cemetery; 20, Milton Seehawer; 21, Ozce Wiseman; 22, Bessie Thomas; 23, Cleon Kain; 24, Anna Jennings, Margaret Vollick; 25, Helen Healey, Martha Finley, Louise Sassman; 26, Eugene Heller, Hubert Berghoff; 27, Bonnie and Jack VanWagner; 28, Clyde A. Stewart; 29, Roscoe R. Munger; 30, Marie Anderson; 31, John H. Chandler; 32, Donald W. Brodie; 33, Wm. J. Butler; 34, Glenn W. Erickson; 35, State of Indiana; 36, Verner L. Householder; 37, Cecil M. Terry; 38, Fred Kankamp.



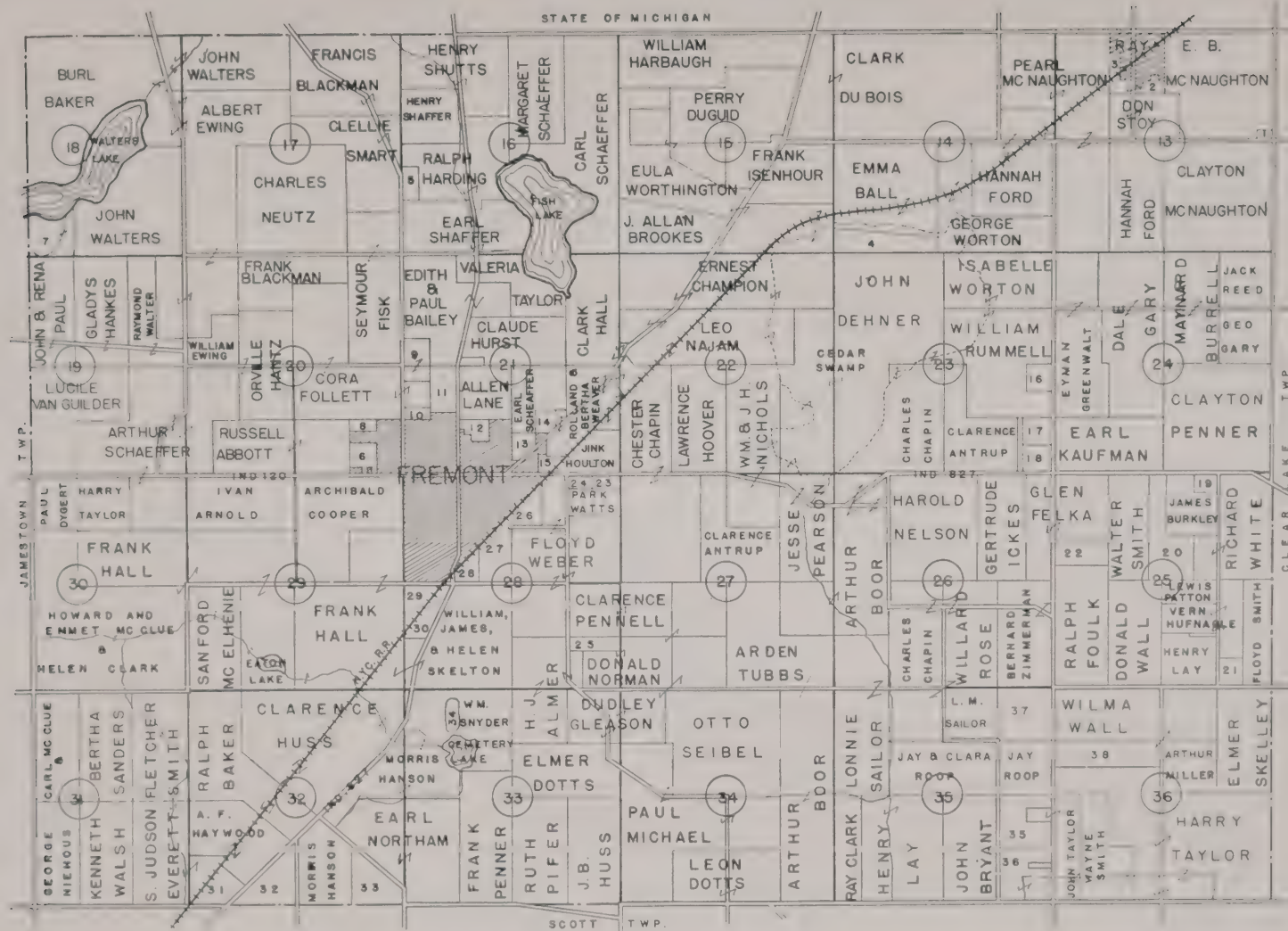
This is a detailed cadastral map of Pleasant Township, Michigan. The map is divided into a grid of sections, with various landowners' names listed within the sections. Notable features include Lake Pleasant, Lake George, Lake James, and Lake Marsh. The map also shows the State of Michigan and the State of Indiana borders. The map is titled "PLEASANT TWP." at the bottom.

**Map Details:**

- Geographical Features:** Lake Pleasant, Lake George, Lake James, Lake Marsh, Lake Hogg, Lake Snow, Lake Green, Lake Otter, Lake James, Lake Marsh.
- Landowners (Section 1):** ELIZABETH JUNK, MARY JUNK, VERYL SHANK, WAYNE RUBLEY, MERE RUBLEY, MERLIN COLLINS, HARVEY NETTELMAN, MYRON CLEVELAND, CHAS. SHUTT, EDSON WELLS, ERNEST MUNGER, A. D. STEWART, CARL WICKMAN, EDWARD WELLS, ALBERT GRAHAM, RALPH RODGERS, WM. ALVISON, ED CALL, WM. CLAY, DONALD DE VOLDER, ROSS MCNETT, RALPH MORSE.
- Landowners (Section 2):** ROSS HARDING, EMERY SPADE, CARL MCCLUE, L. GLENN BROWN, IVAN BURLINGAME, PEARL BROWN, JAMES TOWN VILLAGE, WAYNE & HELEN SWIFT, CLARENCE PARSONS, FORD SUTTON, MAURICE MC CLEW, EVERETT STANTON, FLOYD JONES, CORLEY BROUCH, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE.
- Landowners (Section 3):** JOHN SCHIMMEL, FREDERICK HUETT, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE, MAURICE MC CLEW, EVERETT STANTON, FLOYD JONES, CORLEY BROUCH, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE.
- Landowners (Section 4):** EDSON WELLS, ERNEST MUNGER, A. D. STEWART, CARL WICKMAN, EDWARD WELLS, ALBERT GRAHAM, RALPH RODGERS, WM. ALVISON, ED CALL, WM. CLAY, DONALD DE VOLDER, ROSS MCNETT, RALPH MORSE.
- Landowners (Section 5):** ROSS HARDING, EMERY SPADE, CARL MCCLUE, L. GLENN BROWN, IVAN BURLINGAME, PEARL BROWN, JAMES TOWN VILLAGE, WAYNE & HELEN SWIFT, CLARENCE PARSONS, FORD SUTTON, MAURICE MC CLEW, EVERETT STANTON, FLOYD JONES, CORLEY BROUCH, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE.
- Landowners (Section 6):** JOHN SCHIMMEL, FREDERICK HUETT, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE, MAURICE MC CLEW, EVERETT STANTON, FLOYD JONES, CORLEY BROUCH, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE.
- Landowners (Section 7):** EDSON WELLS, ERNEST MUNGER, A. D. STEWART, CARL WICKMAN, EDWARD WELLS, ALBERT GRAHAM, RALPH RODGERS, WM. ALVISON, ED CALL, WM. CLAY, DONALD DE VOLDER, ROSS MCNETT, RALPH MORSE.
- Landowners (Section 8):** ROSS HARDING, EMERY SPADE, CARL MCCLUE, L. GLENN BROWN, IVAN BURLINGAME, PEARL BROWN, JAMES TOWN VILLAGE, WAYNE & HELEN SWIFT, CLARENCE PARSONS, FORD SUTTON, MAURICE MC CLEW, EVERETT STANTON, FLOYD JONES, CORLEY BROUCH, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE.
- Landowners (Section 9):** JOHN SCHIMMEL, FREDERICK HUETT, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE, MAURICE MC CLEW, EVERETT STANTON, FLOYD JONES, CORLEY BROUCH, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE.
- Landowners (Section 10):** EDSON WELLS, ERNEST MUNGER, A. D. STEWART, CARL WICKMAN, EDWARD WELLS, ALBERT GRAHAM, RALPH RODGERS, WM. ALVISON, ED CALL, WM. CLAY, DONALD DE VOLDER, ROSS MCNETT, RALPH MORSE.
- Landowners (Section 11):** ROSS HARDING, EMERY SPADE, CARL MCCLUE, L. GLENN BROWN, IVAN BURLINGAME, PEARL BROWN, JAMES TOWN VILLAGE, WAYNE & HELEN SWIFT, CLARENCE PARSONS, FORD SUTTON, MAURICE MC CLEW, EVERETT STANTON, FLOYD JONES, CORLEY BROUCH, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE.
- Landowners (Section 12):** JOHN SCHIMMEL, FREDERICK HUETT, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE, MAURICE MC CLEW, EVERETT STANTON, FLOYD JONES, CORLEY BROUCH, CHARLES BAKER, BURL BAKER, FORREST GERIG, WALTER LAKE.

Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, Leroy Becker; 2, Emery Spade; 3, Victor Guebard; 4, W. H. Biederman; 5, Cemetery; 6, Ernest Pew; 7, Edward Putnam; 8, Willis Batchelet; 9, Fred Elwood; 10, Daniel Battenberg; 11, Robert Adams; 12, Harvey Morley; 13, Marion Cobbs; 14, Howard Reeves; 15, Paul Tracy; 16, Wm. Paul Knox; 17, State of Indiana; 18, Lewis Fritz; 19, John Clark; 20, Leonard Bearman; 21, Charles Bearman; 22, Elsie May Booth; 23, Dora Sutton; 24, Iva and Chas. Hutchins; 25, Lynn Munger; 26, Joseph Dicker and Inez Gibson; 27, Thomas Henderson; 28, Fred Krielbaum Jr.; 29, Tillie Sheets; 30, L. T. Rankin; 31, Hermon Phillips; 32, Beechwood; 33, Eugene Stirnkorb; 34, Evangeline Chaplan; 35, Sherlan and Mildred Whittaker; 36, Henry Binkley; 37, Margaret Berger; 38, Harry Kelsey; 39, Marcella Rockwell; 40, Harold Shumann; 41, John Hines; 42, Harry Thorp; 43, Howard and Emmett McClue, Helen Clark.

# FREMONT TOWNSHIP

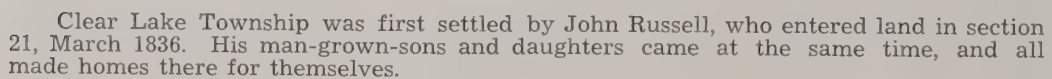


ATLAS SECTION

Fremont Township was first settled August, 1834, by John McMahan, and nearly the same time came Uncle Demery Tillitson.

Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, Covenhenter Memorial Cemetery; 2, Charles Huffman; 3, Harriet Belote; 4, Cedar Lake Farms, Inc.; 5, Kenneth Reeve; 6, Robert McMurray; 7, Bernard Hanks; 8, Floyd Firestone; 9, Joseph Easterday; 10, Halbert Rummel; 11, Ollie Shaeffer; 12, Lucy Bisbie; 13, Clyde Thomas; 14, Earl and Theodore Schaeffer; 15, Walters Mims; 16, Mary Hotelling; 17, Lewis and Glenn Folka; 18, Esther Fenstermaker; 19, John Binkley; 20, Junior and Imogene Wireman; 21, Fay and Pauline Worthington; 22, Esther Fenstermaker; 23, Ethel Clements; 24, Bertha Gundrum; 25, Robert Dotts; 26, Gladys Kunkle; 27, Dale Cleverly; 28, John Sier; 29, Halbert Rummel; 30, Joseph Klein; 31, Donald Rhoades; 32, Carl and Maynard Stroh; 33, Ralph Baker; 34, Lake Side Cemetery; 35, Daniel and Mary Myers; 36, Henry Lay; 37, Joe Szeman; 38, James and Hattie Mingus.

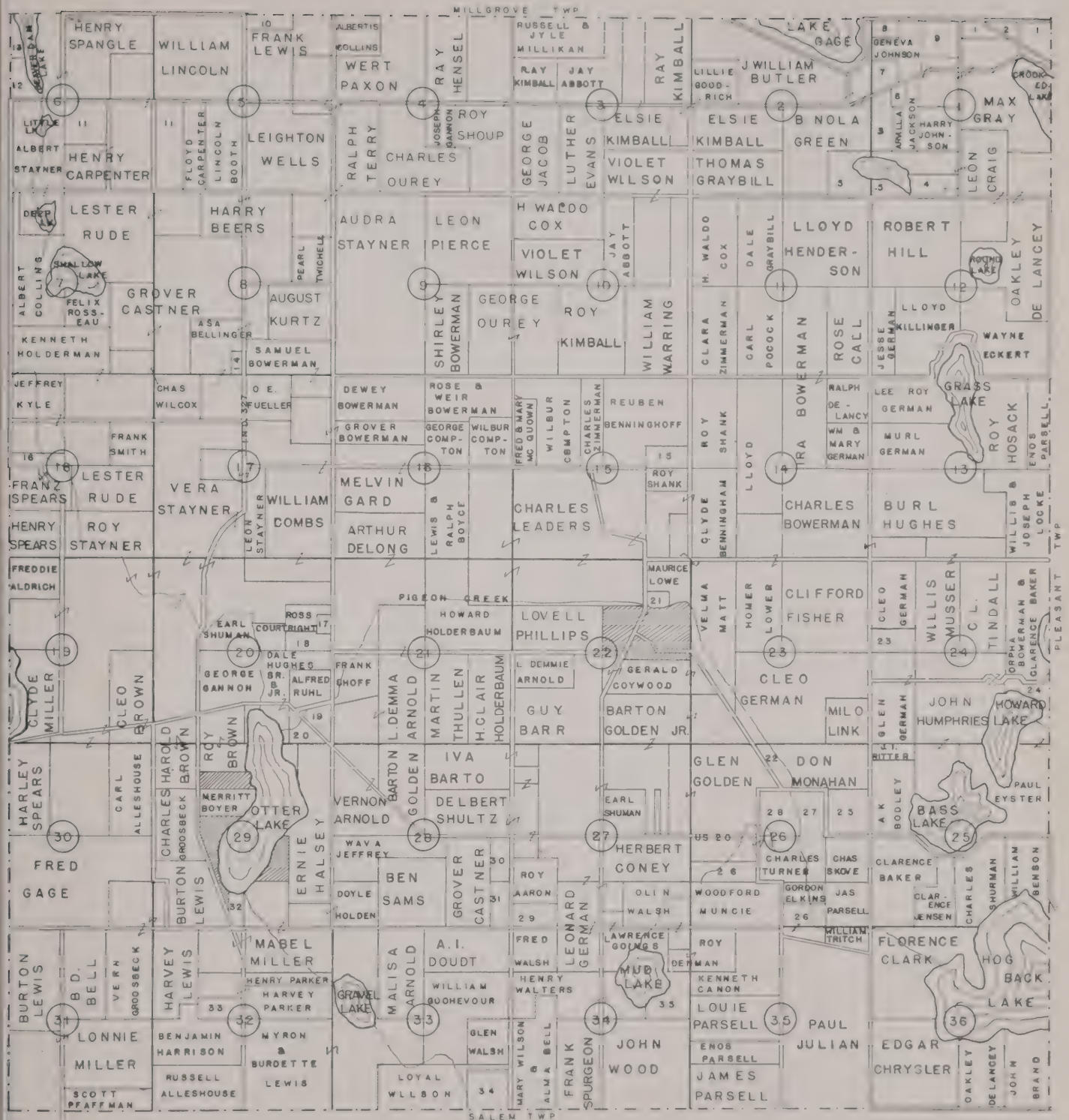




Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, Ethel Thompkins; 2, Edward Blair; 3, Frank Griffor; 4, Harley Sattison; 5, Fred Vordermark; 6, George Straw; 7, Oakwood Plat; 8, Vacel Harrington; 9, South Side Beach; 10, Fairview Addition; 11, Lakewood Plat; 12, Point Park Plat; 13, Teepee Ridge Plat; 14, Fast Bay Park Plat; 15, B. R. Brady; 16, Gaylord Richardson; 17, Mahlon Rieke; 18, Sunny Slope; 19, Frank Handy; 20, G. Kenneth Hubbard; 21, Arnold Koenerman; 22, Dean Salsbury; 23, Homeside Beach Plat; 24, Fountain Beach Plat; 25, Mark Stauffer; 26, Roy and Ruth Stetler; 27, Grant Jackson.

# ATLAS SECTION JACKSON TOWNSHIP

447



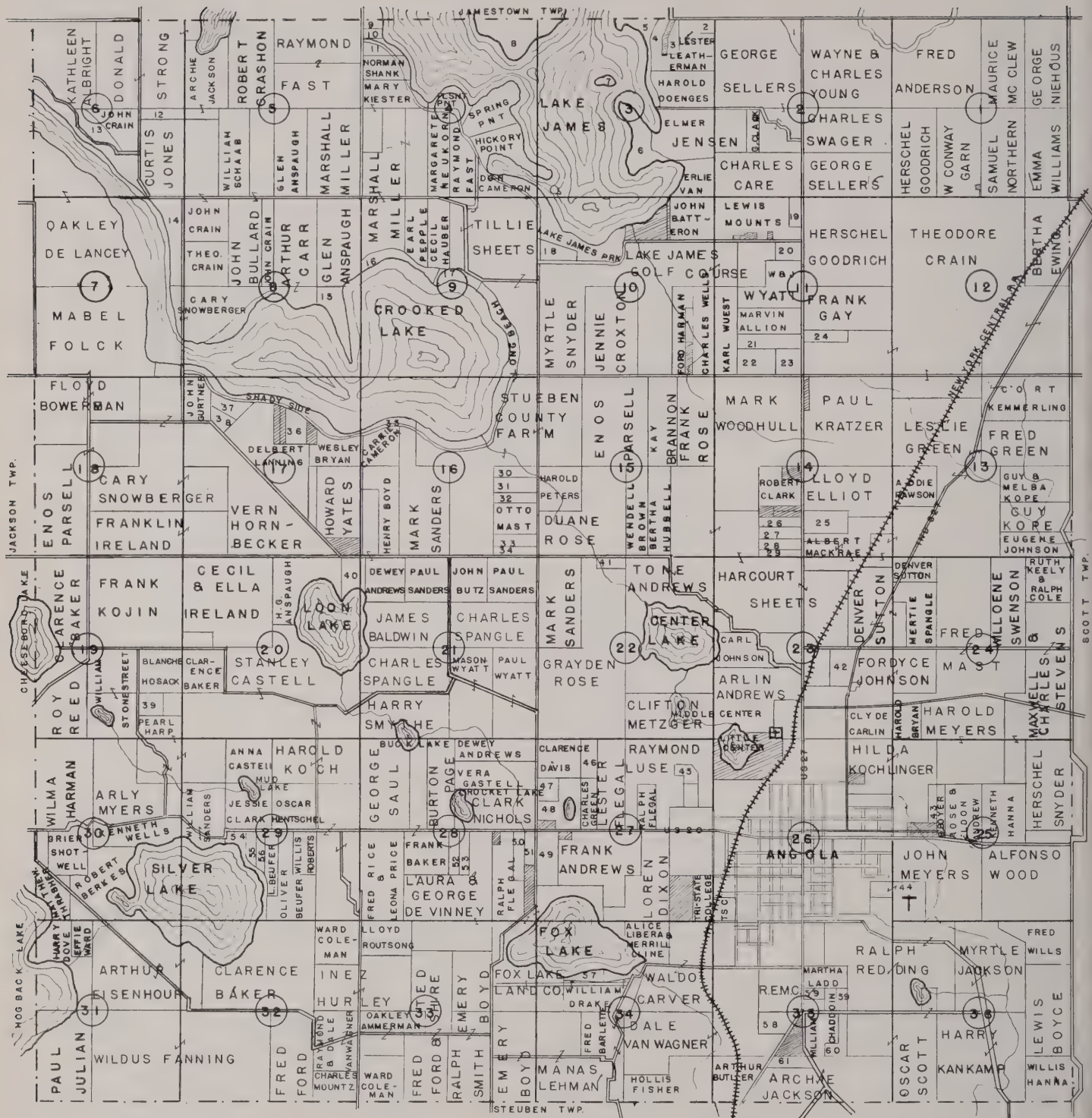
There seems no dispute in this county as to who the original settlers were, and the matter of original land entries, of course is always a matter easily settled by the land records of the county and land office at which they were obtained. September 17, 1831, the first land was entered by Gideon Langdon, it being the east half of the southwest quarter of section five, township 37, range 12, east, in what is now known as Jackson Civil Township.

Gideon Langdon and John and Jacob Stayner, who immigrated to Jackson Prairie in 1831, were beyond question the first white men to ever permanently locate in this county.

Small property owners are indicated by number: 1. Max Bachelet; 2. Arthur Stabile; 3. B. Nola Green and Joseph Butler; 4. Fred Showalter and Leon Craig; 5. Lena Rubley; 6. Abner Farby; 7. Charles Johnson; 8. Wm. Butler; 9. David Denning; 10. Albert Collins; 11. Evelyn Spangle and Evelyn Gross; 12. Kenneth Comon; 13. Marie Anderson; 14. Roy Hendley; 15. Ella Benninghoff; 16. Mary Vahle; 17. Wendell Stayner; 18. Lewis Snodmanberger; 19. Robert Neuenhewander; 20. Vernon Arnold; 21. Kenton Benninghoff; 22. Philip Wyss; 23. Jesse German; 24. Roy Reed; 25. Zeane Smith; 26. Wilma Alleshouse; 27. Charles Neuenhewander; 28. Edith Mahaffey; 29. Ora Gillespie; 30. Alma Wilson; 31. Albert Van Pelt; 32. Rollin Bixler; 33. Robert Boots; 34. Burdett Leas; 35. Lawrence Goings.



## PLEASANT TOWNSHIP

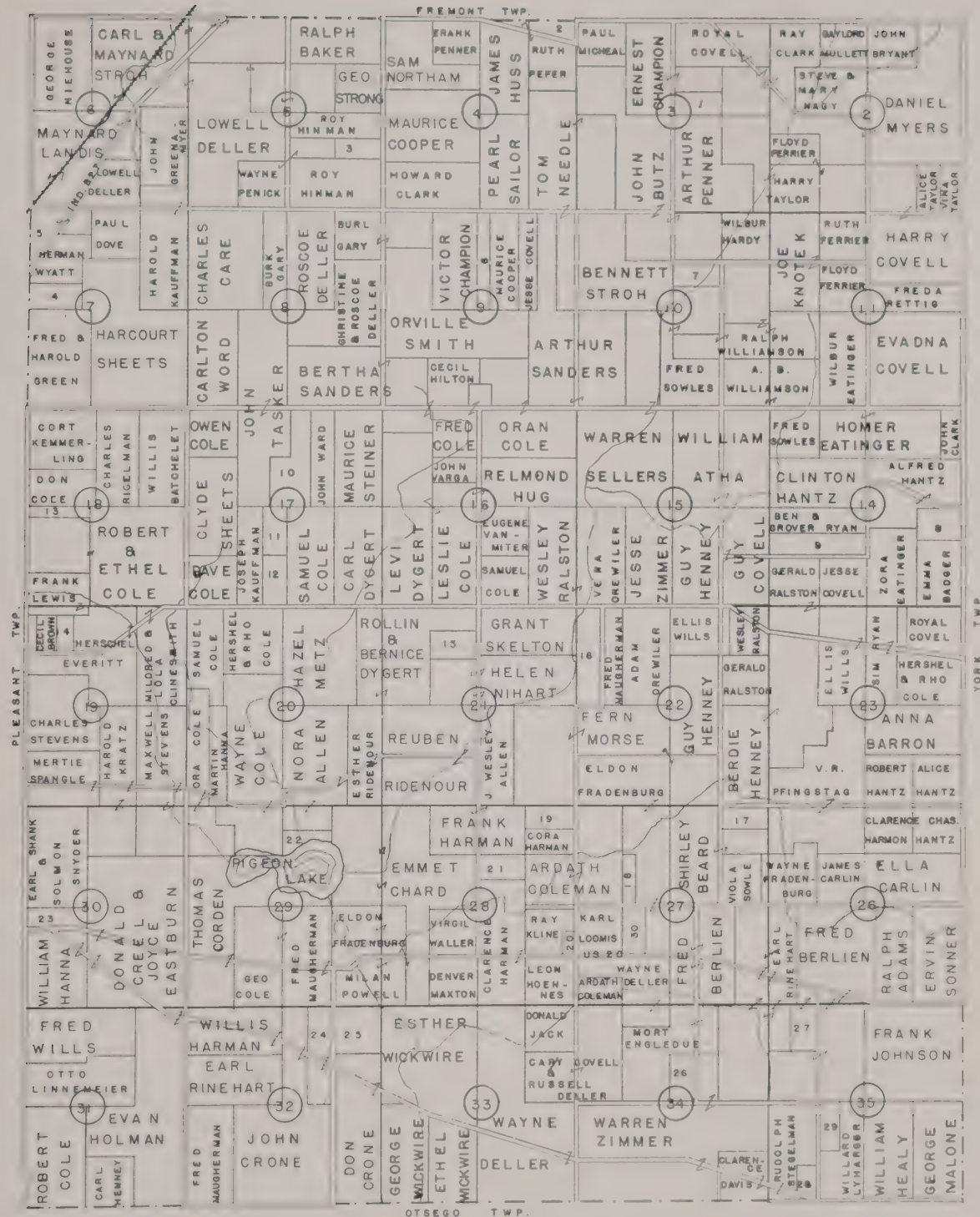


Pleasant Township was first settled in August, 1835, by Elder Stealy, a Free-Will Baptist preacher, who entered land in section 34, township 37, range 13, east. He and his family arrived to remain permanently, in February, 1836.

Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, Adelaide Fauche; 2, Raymond Burnett; 3, Russell Ritter; 4, Ruth Thomas; 5, Gleneyre Beach Plot; 6, Red Sand Beach; 7, State of Indiana; 8, State of Indiana; 9, Roy Bledsoe and Charles Bledsoe; 10, George Meyers; 11, Glen Jackson; 12, Archie Jackson; 13, Alice Shank; 14, Kidney's Landing; 15, Old Point Comfort and Crown Point; 16, Woodland Beach; 17, Pleasant Hill; 18, Lake James Christian Assembly; 19, Adam Janiezewski; 20, William Burbank; 21, Herschel Goodrich; 22, E. W. Francis; 23, Knight D. Whitman; 24, Alva Whitman; 25, Matthias Scheidler and Clair Stukey; 26, Allen Wood; 27, Howard Fletcher; 28, Charles Beattie; 29, Charles Pilliod and Jack Johnson; 30, Edward Stetler; 31, Otto Mast; 32, Mary Hobson; 33, Roy Hobson; 34, Carl Shumaker; 35, Pebble Beach; 36, Joe Thobe; 37, Arthur Fisher; 38, John Oehler; 39, Theodore Champion; 40, Emmanuel Caywood; 41, John Cleland; 42, Gladys Somerlott and Jonas Somerlott; 43, John Estrich; 44, Circle Hill Cemetery; 45, Austin Brokaw; 46, Robert Lowther; 47, Lester Fenner; 48, Robert Lowther; 49, Greyhound Post House; 50, Roscoe Erbe; 51, Vern Hornbacker; 52, Ward Fisher; 53, Kenneth German; 54, Jasper Mann; 55, John Ritter; 56, Donald Babcock; 57, Ward Coleman; 58, Kenneth Ruchard; 59, Willis Batchelet; 60, Fred Wills; 61, Dewey Nodine.



## SCOTT TOWNSHIP

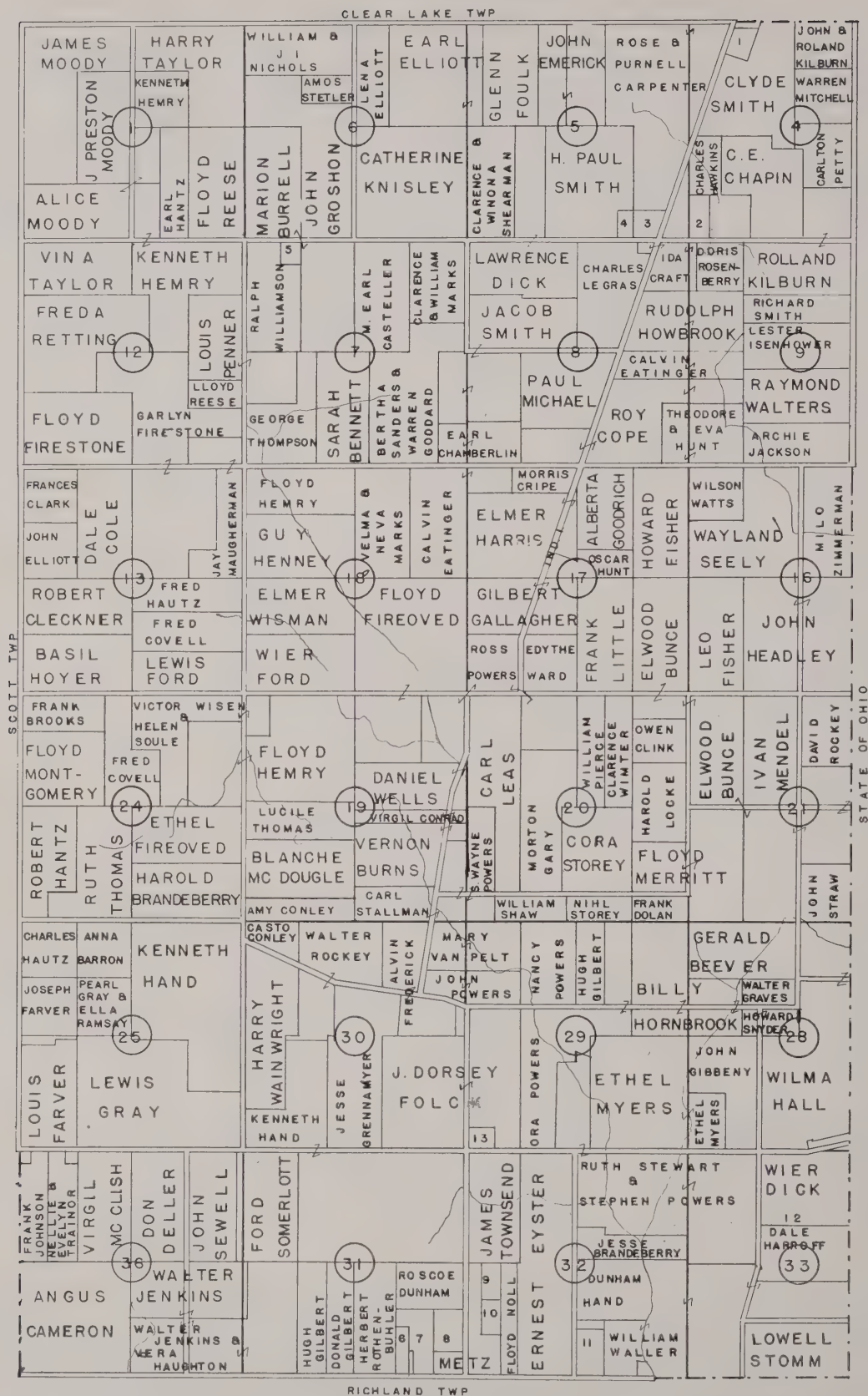


Scott Township was first settled by Elder Silas Headly and Daniel Hill in 1836. The first piece of land entered was in April, 1836, by John Van Horn, in sections 3, 4, 9 and 10.

Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, Margaret Hardy; 2, Jay Huss; 3, Alice Hutchins; 4, Kingsford Basse; 5, Charles Rigelman Jr.; 6, Andrew Cope; 7, Shirley Sowles; 8, Robert Cleckner; 9, Arlene Pickett and Ruth Fisher; 10, Warren Goddard; 11, Harold Martin; 12, James Kauffman; 13, David Sowle; 14, Ralph Cole and Ruth Keely; 15, Fordyce Johnson; 16, Helen Hibart and Ray and Juanita Siebern; 17, Wayne Fradenburg; 18, Homer Coleman; 19, Henry Simpson; 20, Raymond Morgan; 21, Cleon Florentine; 22, Floyd Opycke; 23, Charles Fifer; 24, Clyde Delancey; 25, Arvilla Johnson and Helen Lannemeier; 26, Willis Ingledue; 27, Grant Maugherman; 28, Frank Andrews; 29, Warren and Wendel Zimmer; 30, Irene Fradenburg.



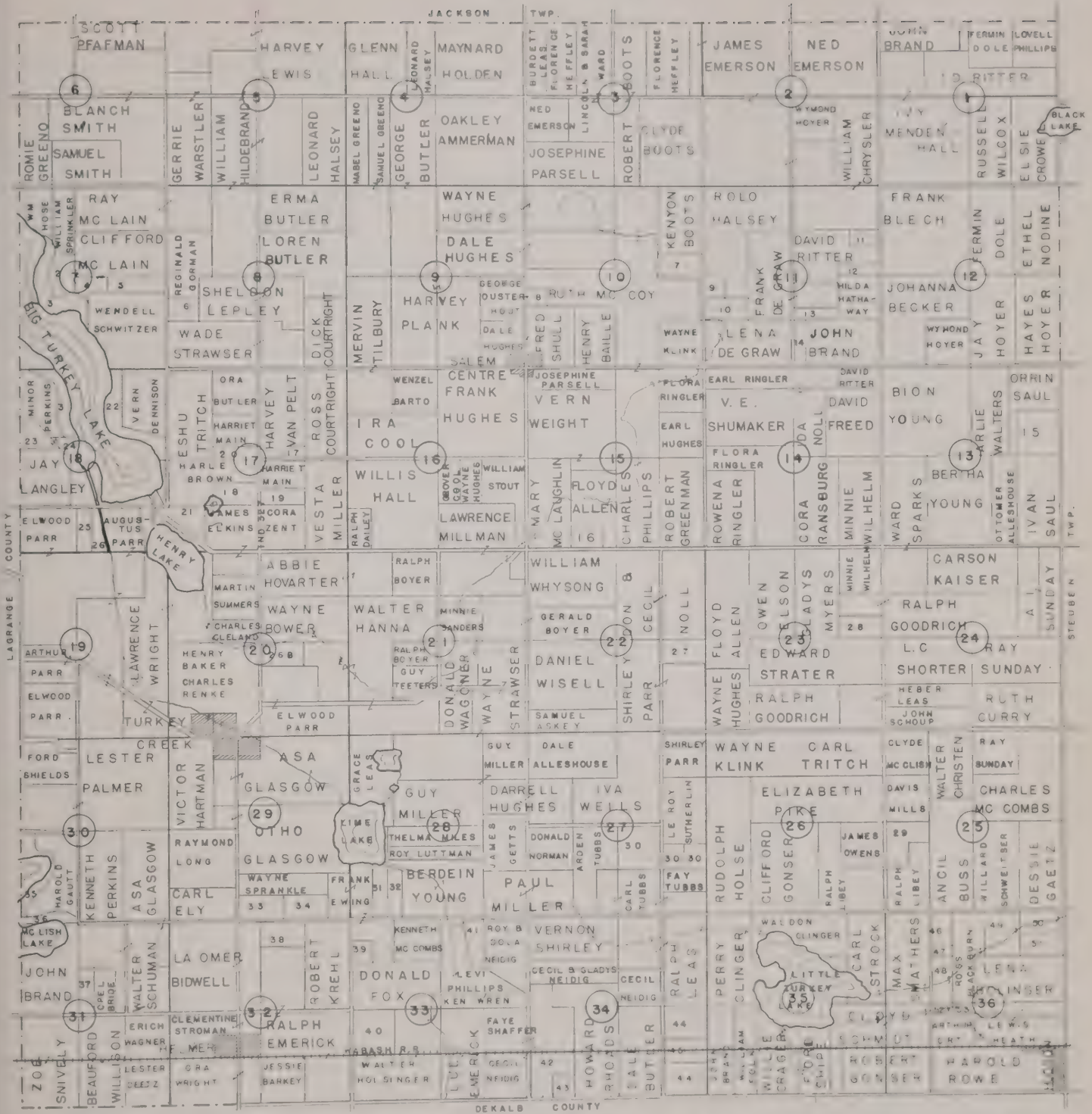
## YORK TOWNSHIP



York Township was first invaded for settlement in May 1836, when Fayette Barron built his cabin where now the village of Metz stands.

Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, Merlin Johnson; 2, Samuel Davis; 3, Alfred Scott; 4, George Hess; 5, G. E. Davis; 6, George Engeldue; 7, Georgen Bowles; 8, Theodore Hand; 9, Roscoe Dunham; 10, Roy Musser; 11, Dorothea Teegarden and John Kogin; 12, Erman Dirr; 13, Howard Rodman.

## SALEM TOWNSHIP

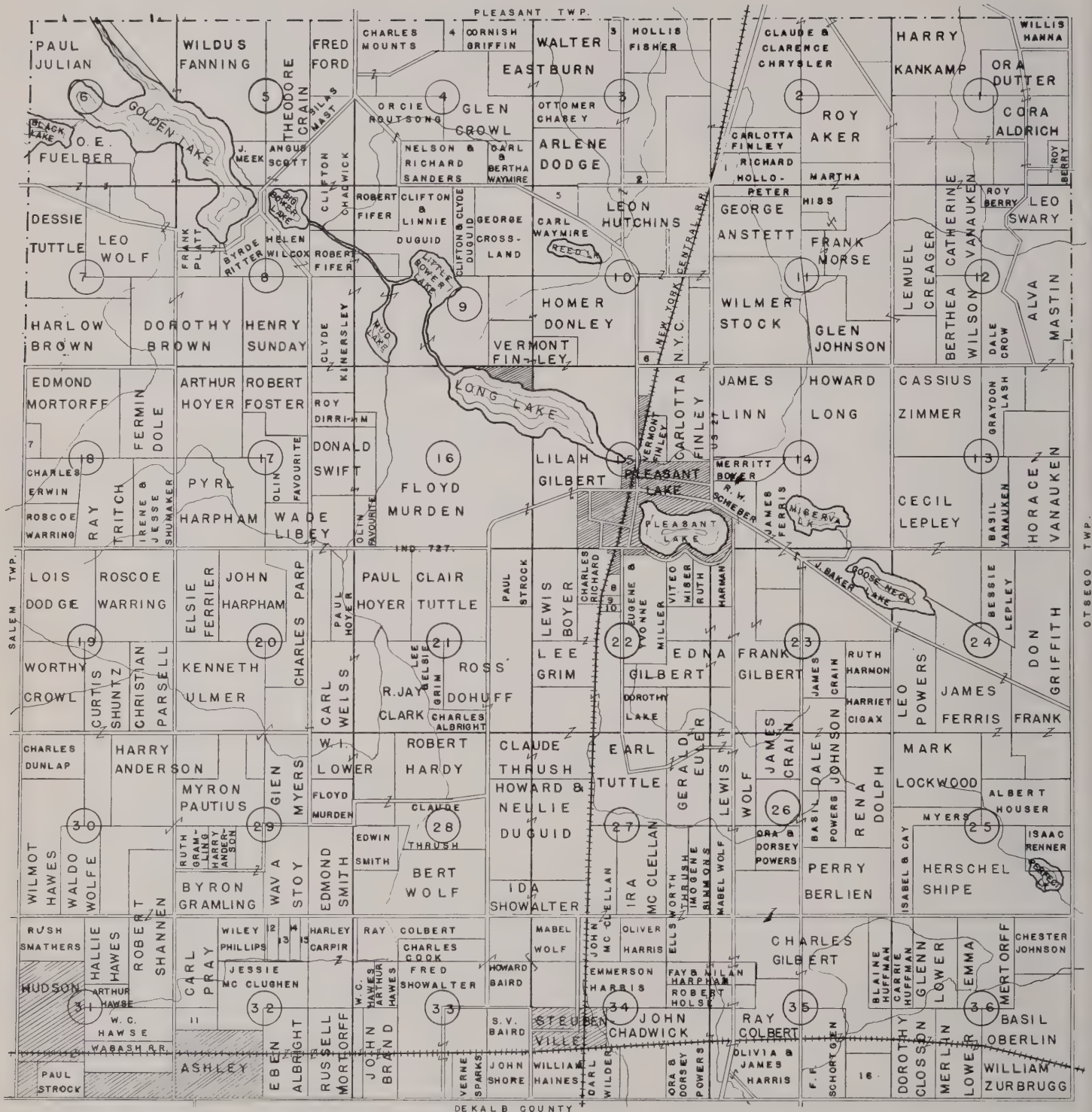


Salem Township was first settled by Richard Knott, in the summer of 1835. Caleb Hopkins made the first land entry August 26, 1835, in the southeast quarter of section 3.

Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, Fannie and Irah Towns; 2, Wildwood by the Lake; 3, Wabash Portland Cement Co.; 4, Wm. Sprinkle; 5, Harvey Van Peit; 6, Augie Getrost; 7, Jennings Luttman; 8, Harold Lockmire; 9, Wayne Klink; 10, Georgia Parsell; 11, Harry Shumaker; 12, Oran Beigh; 13, David Ritter; 14, Ralph Jones; 15, Ottomar Alleshouse; 16, Edgar Whyson; 17, John Wilton; 18, Clifford and Donald McClain; 19, Lydia Ruckman and Margerie Weiner; 20, Lucile Rowe; 21, Charles and Dora Wright; 22, Dennison's addition; 23, Chalmers Adams; 24, Rufus Koehner; 25, J. Byron Boyer; 26, Claude Gellys; 26b, Mildred Kraus; 27, Robert Greenman; 28, Clyde McClain; 29, Clarence Johnson; 30, George and Donald Norman; 31, Ross Wren; 32, Wilbur Rowe; 33, Milburn Elkins; 34, Lawrence Deetz; 35, Blue Haven; 36, Elm Grove; 37, Perry Emerick; 38, Russell Shaffer; 39, Ira Rowe; 40, Robert Shaffer; 41, Earnest Young; 42, Spencer Ringler; 43, Jesse Shultz; 44, Trevor Frederick; 45, Wabash R.R. Co.; 46, Kenneth Camp; 47, Cuckoo Cemetery; 48, Maude Libey and Hazel Pray; 49, John Shatto; 50, Max Smathers; 51, Ruth Smathers; 52, John Boyd; 53, Lester Hartman.



## STEUBEN TOWNSHIP



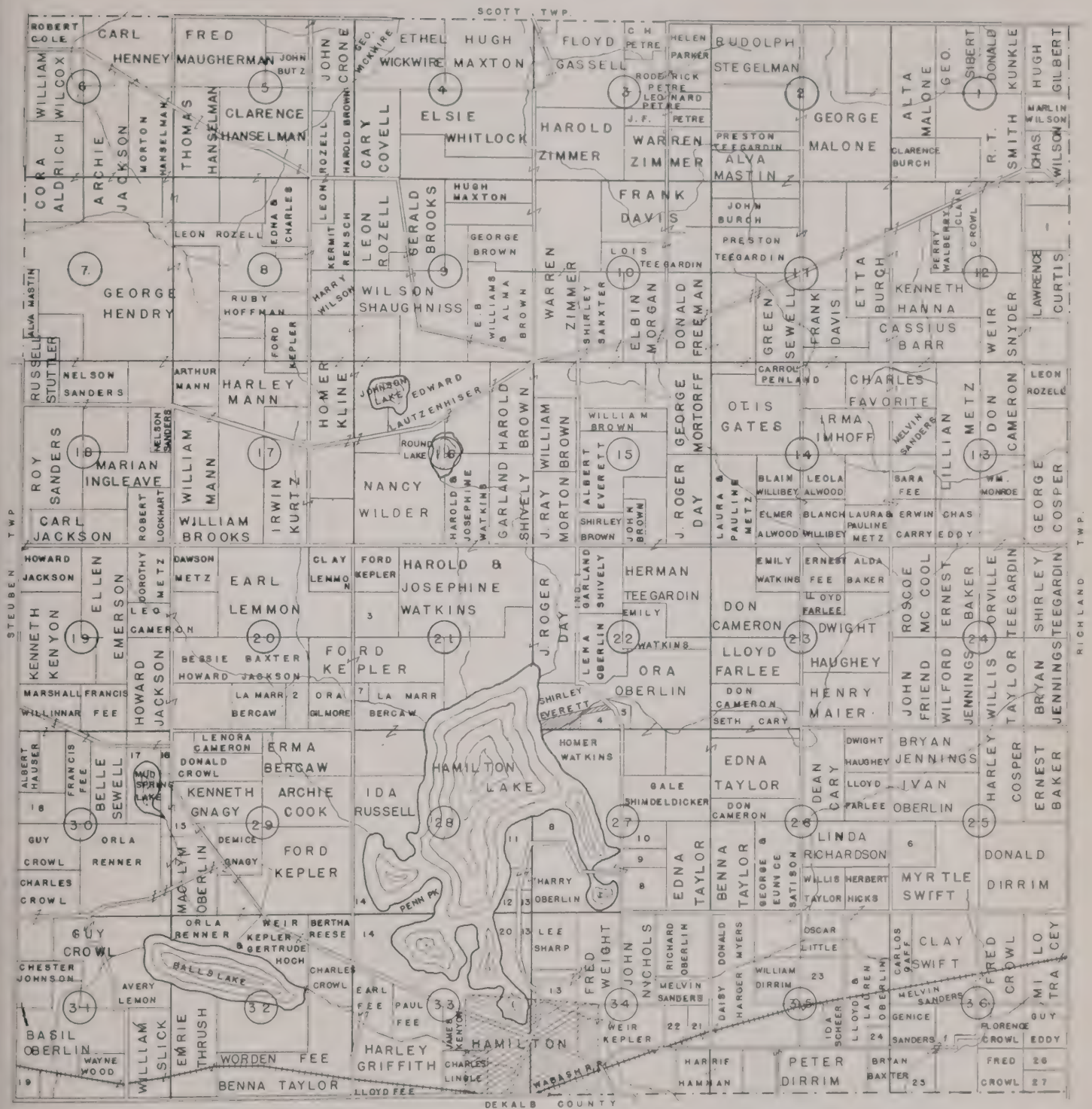
Steuben Township was first settled in 1835, by pioneers Seth W. Murray, Isaac Glover, Alexander C. Britton, Reuben Warwick, James Forbes, Daniel Cummings, and others.

Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, Carl Demarest; 2, Paul Chasey; 3, Manas Lehman; 4, A. H. Sholty; 5, Madge Gleckner; 6, Allen Landis; 7, Frank McCormick; 8, Clarence Kaufman; 9, Richard Mondhank; 10, Rollie Alleshouse; 11, Claude Carpenter; 12, Nelson Towns; 13, Harley Carpenter; 14, James Milras; 15, Barton Brodie; 16, Roscoe Taylor and Alta Chapman.



# ATLAS SECTION OTSEGO TOWNSHIP

453

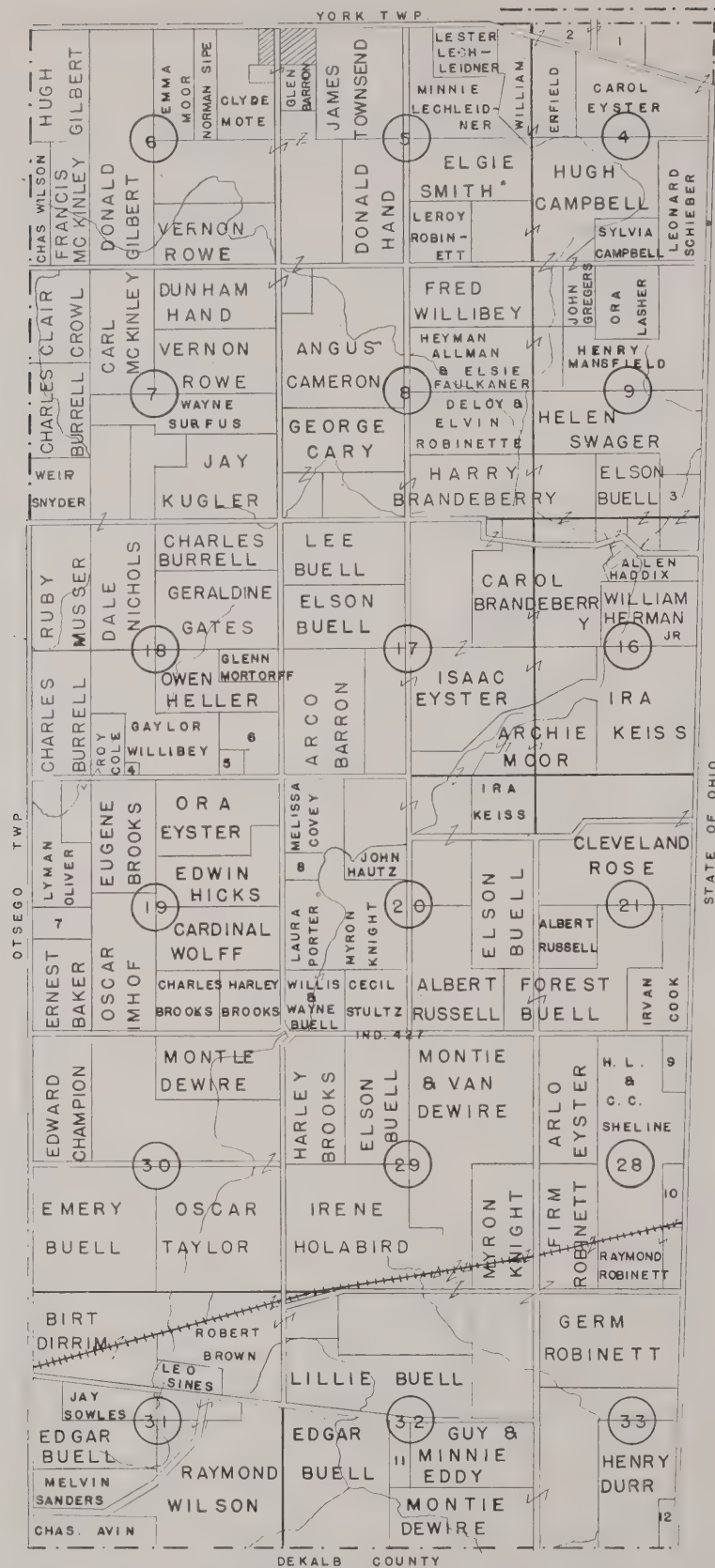


Otsego Township had its first settlement in March 1835, when on the eighth day of that month came John Fee, who settled, built the first house and there remained until overtaken by death April 2, 1873. He made his land entry (first in township) January 28, 1835, in section 32.

Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, Phonice and Carleton VanAuken; 2, Holmes McCormick Co.; 3, Eugene Teegardin; 4, Edgar Livingston; 5, Mary Everett; 6, Linda Richardson; 7, Katherine Clark; 8, Dale Waterhouse; 9, Ray and Mahlon Disher; 10, Mahlon Disher; 11, Plot of Oakwood Place; 12, Lyle Gnagy; 13, Glen Sweet; 14, Plot of Hamilton Lake Highlands; 15, Clarence Murray; 16, Leo Cameron; 17, Paul Jackson; 18, Harvey Lockamire; 19, Harry Chadwick; 20, Plot of Oakwood Shores; 21, Bryan Baxter; 22, Leo Albright; 23, Elga and Robert George; 24, Henry Scheer; 25, Melvin Sanders; 26, Hagen McCurdy; 27, Donald Martin.

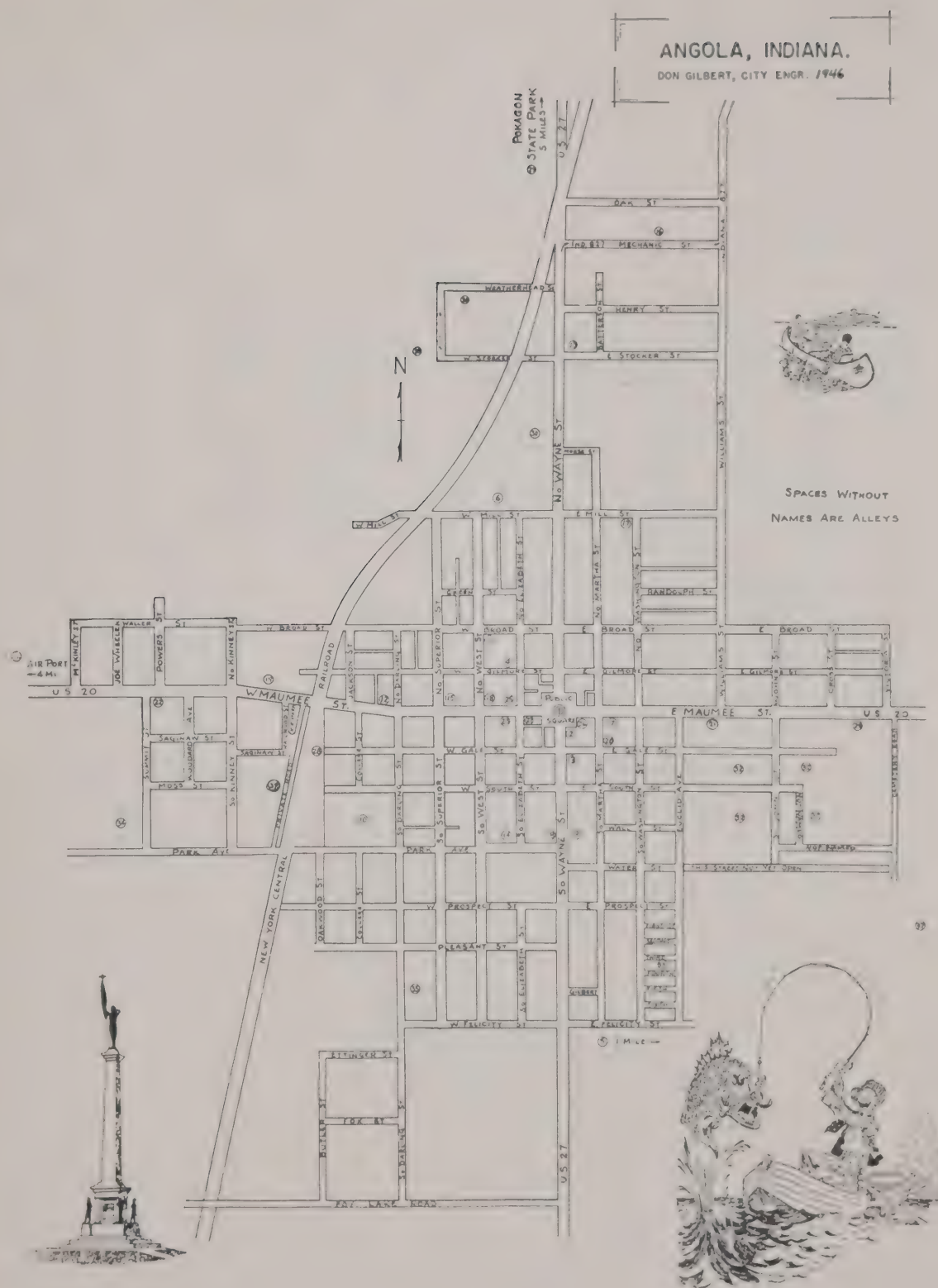


# RICHLAND TOWNSHIP



Richland Township was first settled in the early part of 1836, by Robert Jackman and family in section 30, where he built a log cabin and remained a permanent settler.

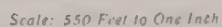
Small property owners are indicated by number: 1, William Enfield; 2, William Waller; 3, Owen Haddix; 4, Kenneth Noragon; 5, Denane Barron; 6, Willis Lechleidner; 7, Bryan Jennings; 8, Avilla Keller; 9, Ward Flegal; 10, Elson Buell; 11, Guy Eddy; 12, Dorothy and Burton Buell.



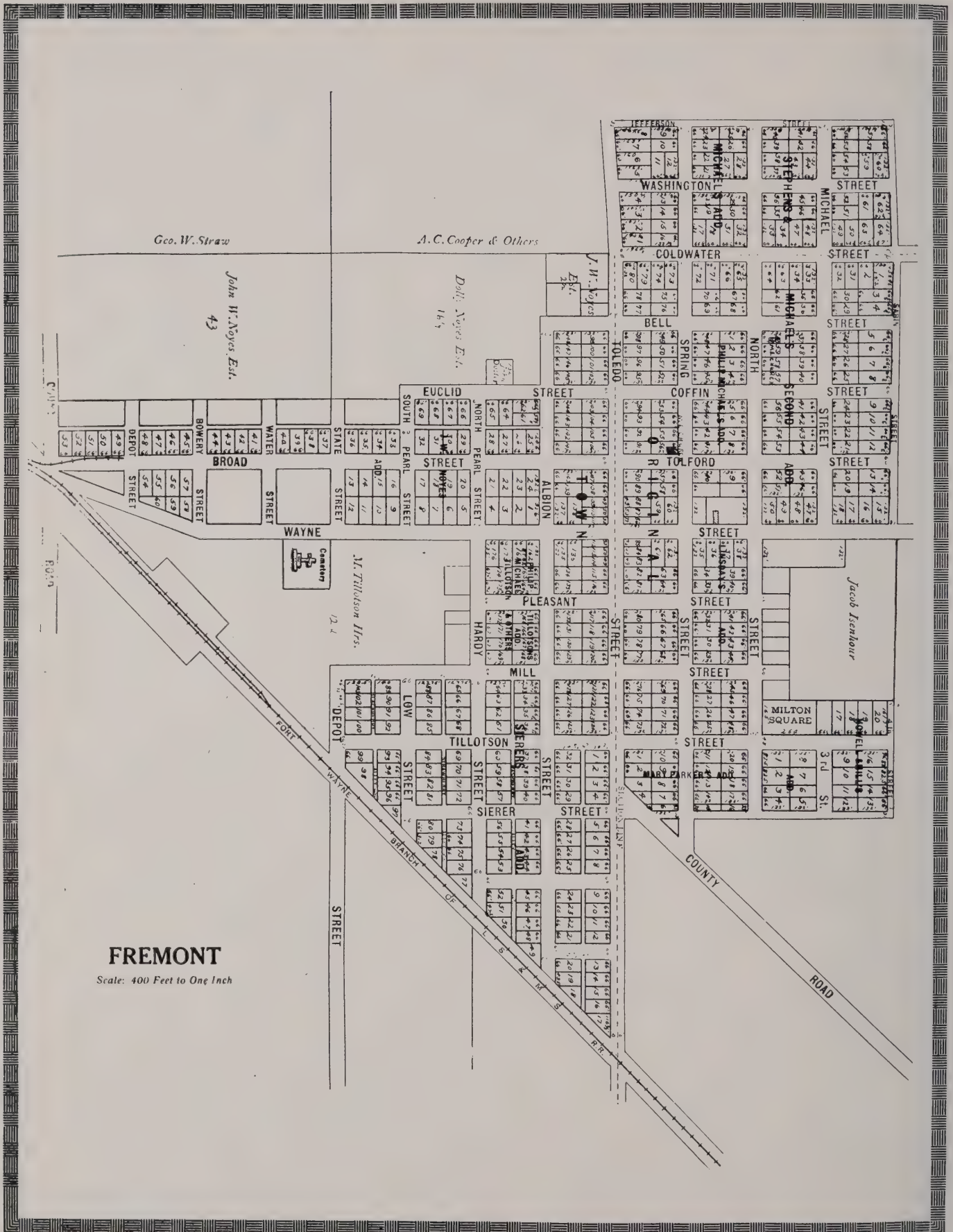
### Map of Angola





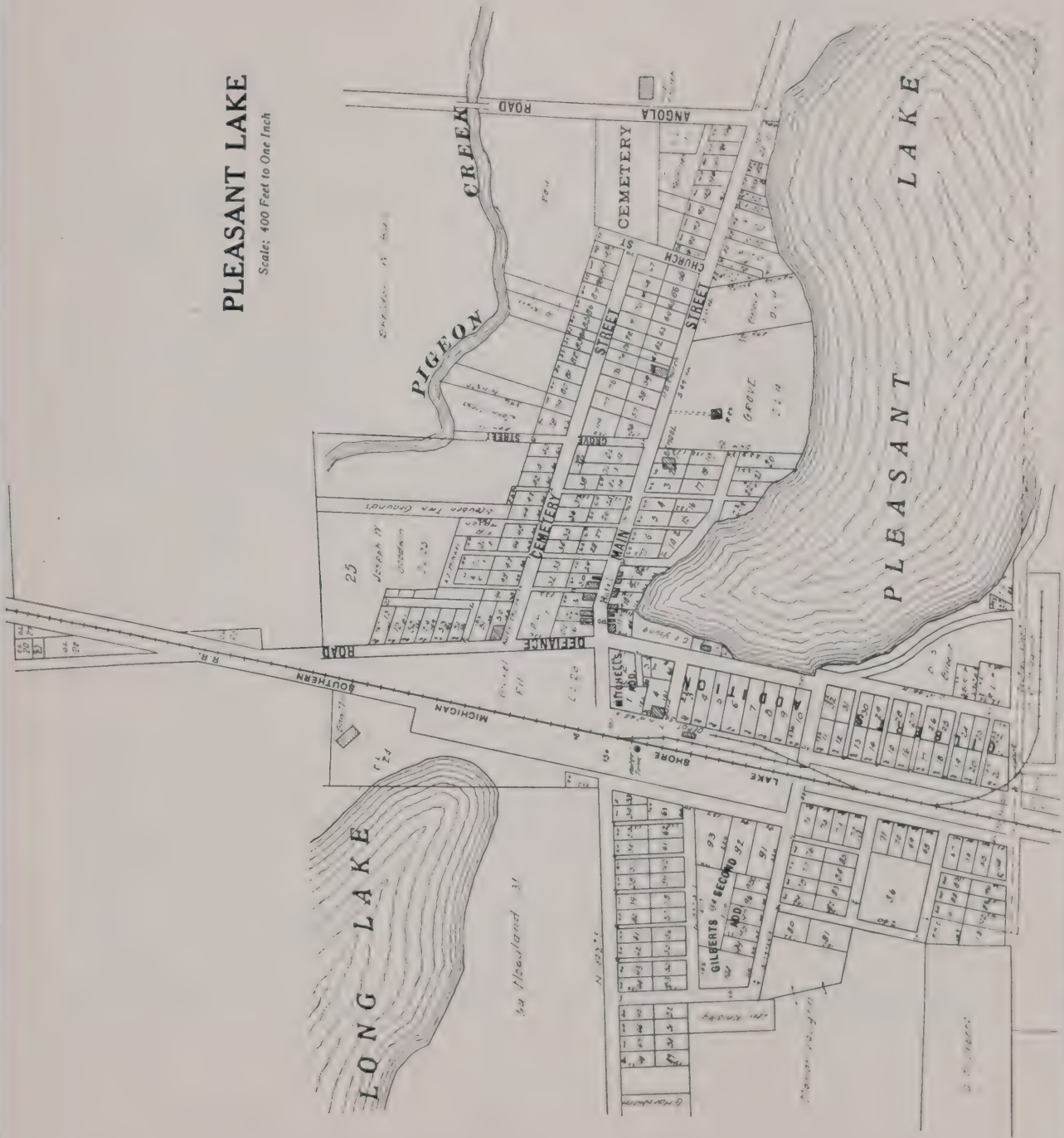




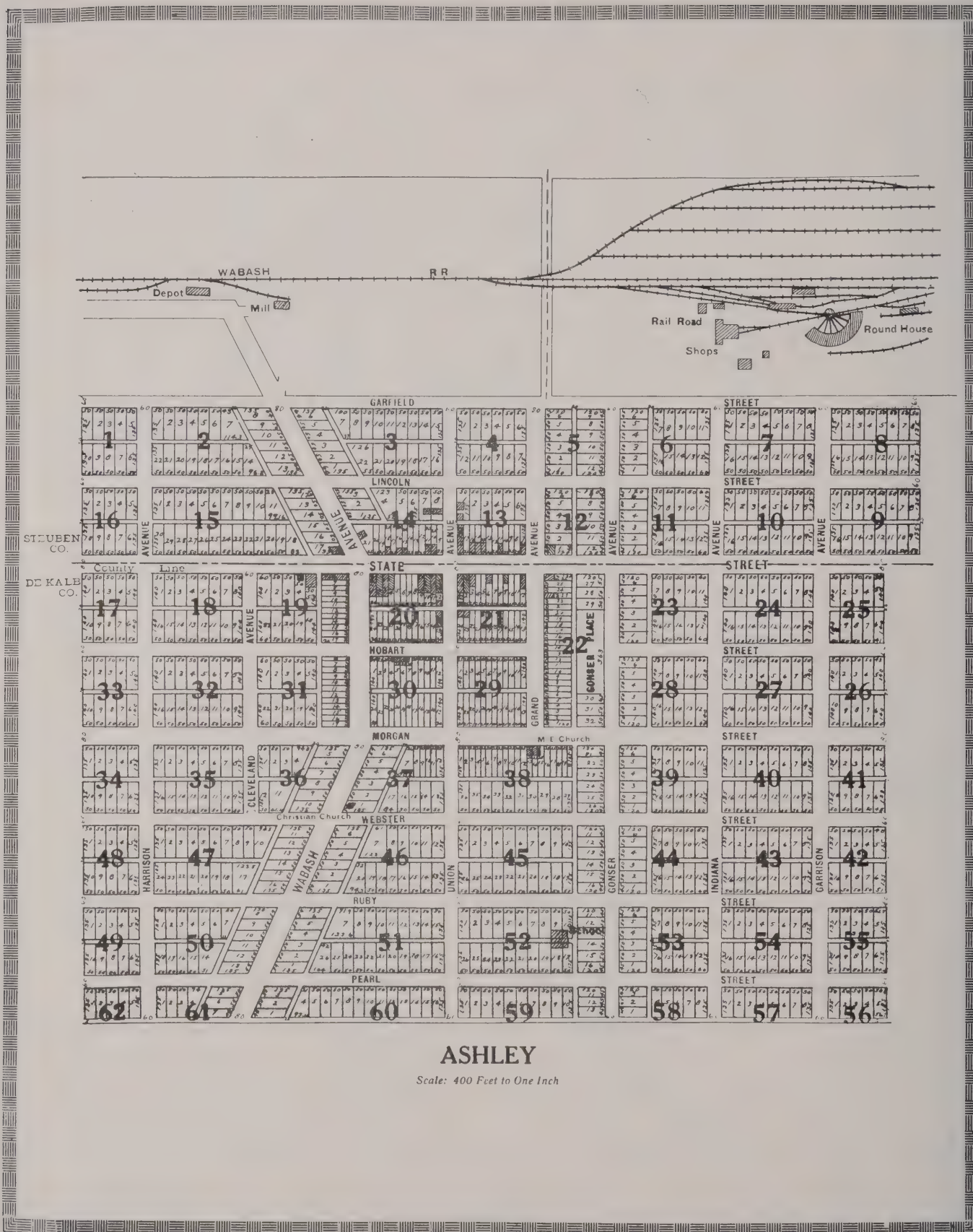


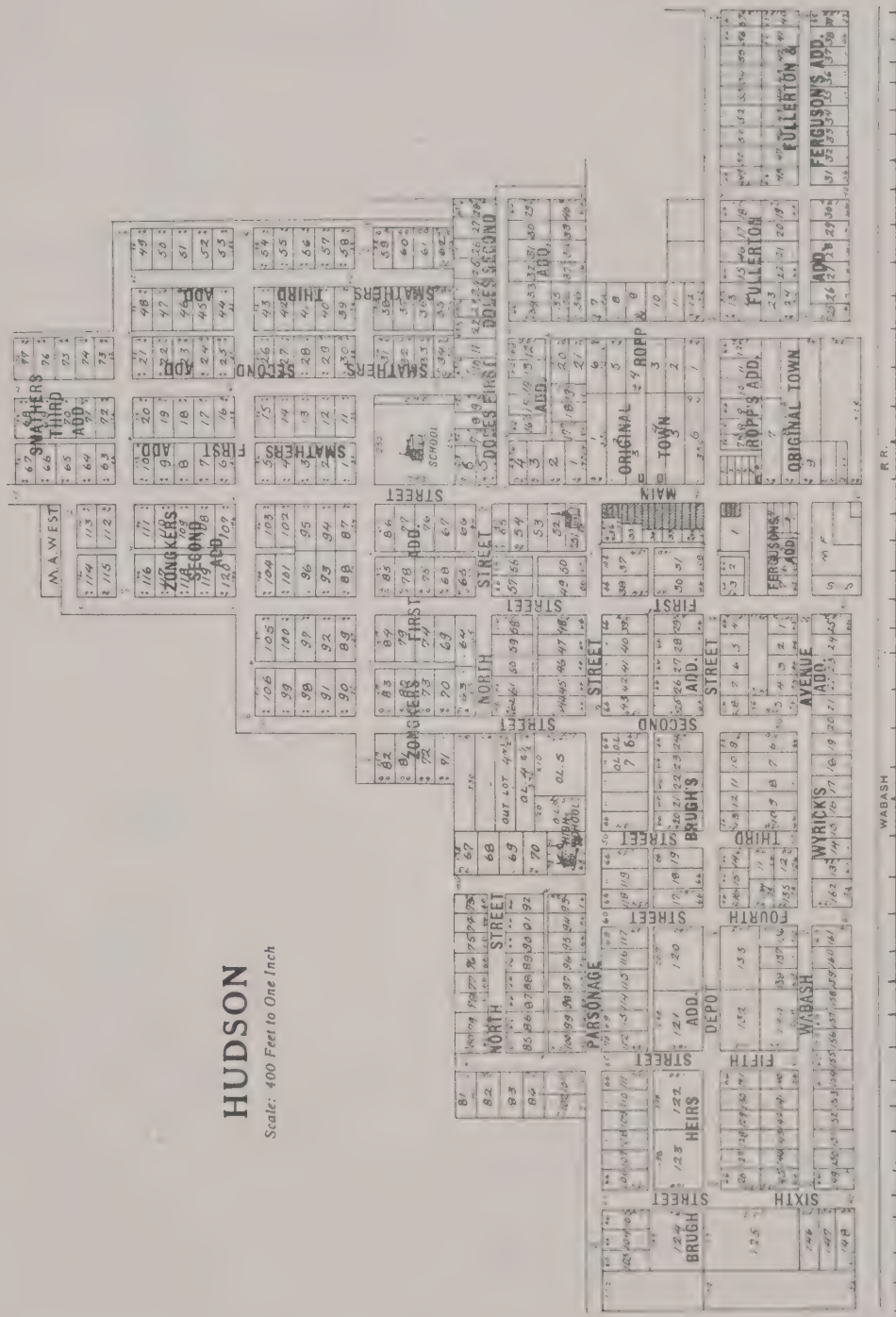
# PLEASANT LAKE

Scale: 400 Feet to One Inch



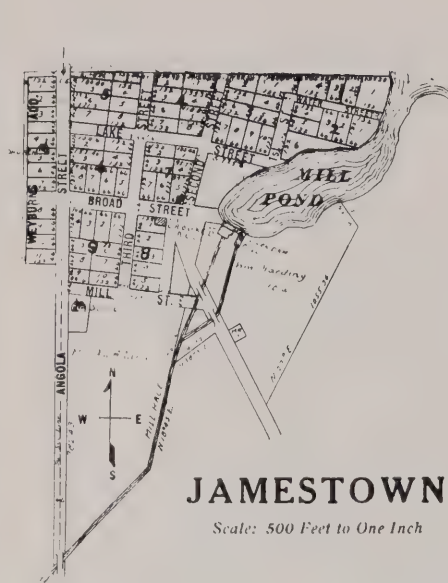






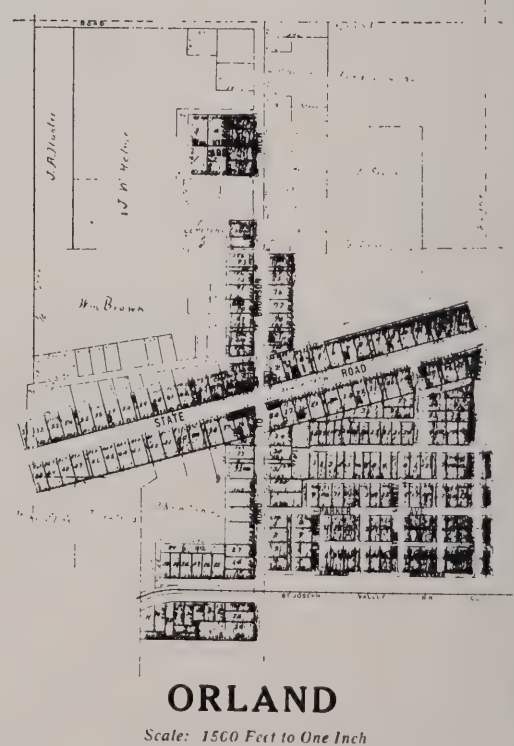
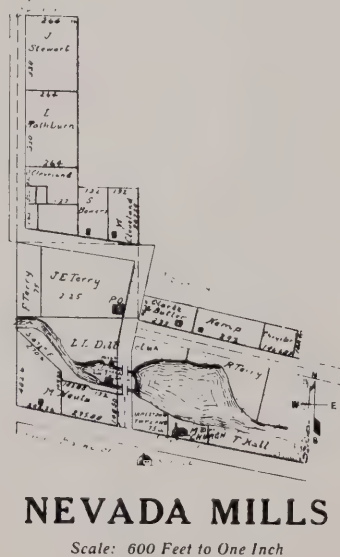
WABASH R.R.





### RAWSONS COURT ORLAND

Scale: 350 Feet to One Inch



**HAMILTON**

Scale: 600 Feet to One Inch

**GRAND VIEW**

Scale: 100 Feet to One Inch

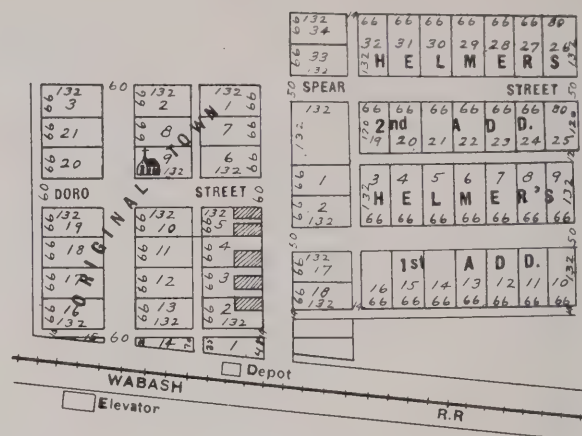
**STEUBENVILLE**

Scale: 325 Feet to One Inch

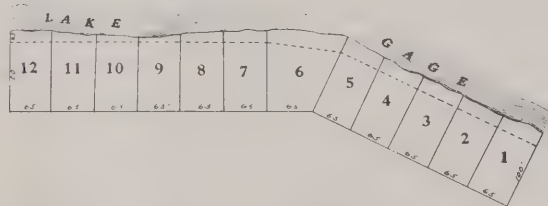


**FLINT**

Scale: 500 feet to 1 inch.

**HELMER**

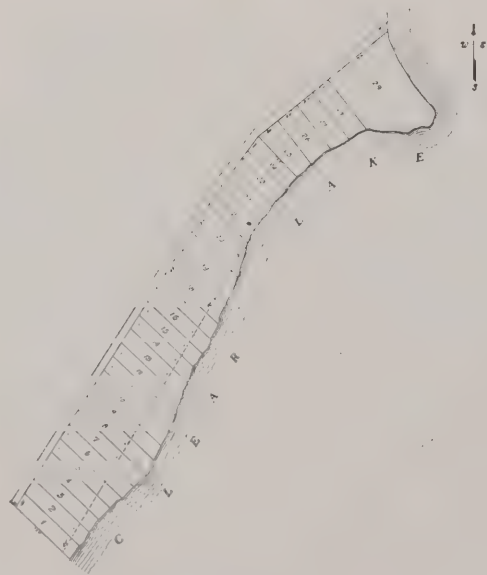
Scale: 270 feet to 1 inch

**OAKDALE**

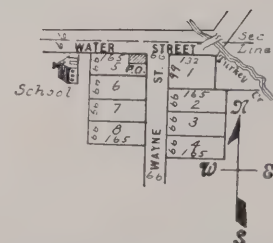
Scale: 200 feet to 1 inch.

**SALEM CENTER**

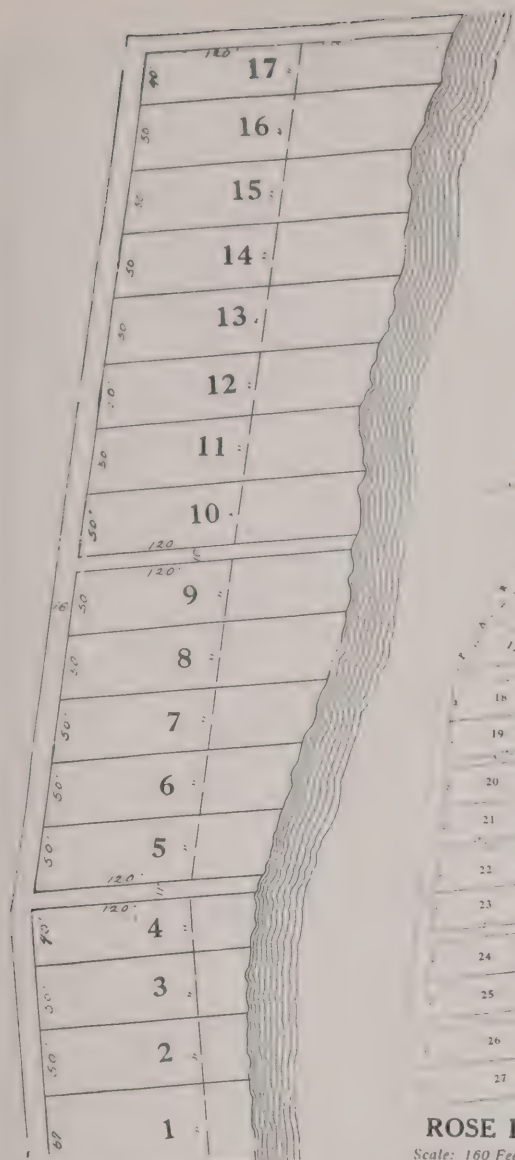
Scale: 300 feet to 1 inch.

**McLOUTH**

Scale: 300 feet to 1 inch.

**TURKEY CREEK**

Scale: 400 feet to 1 inch

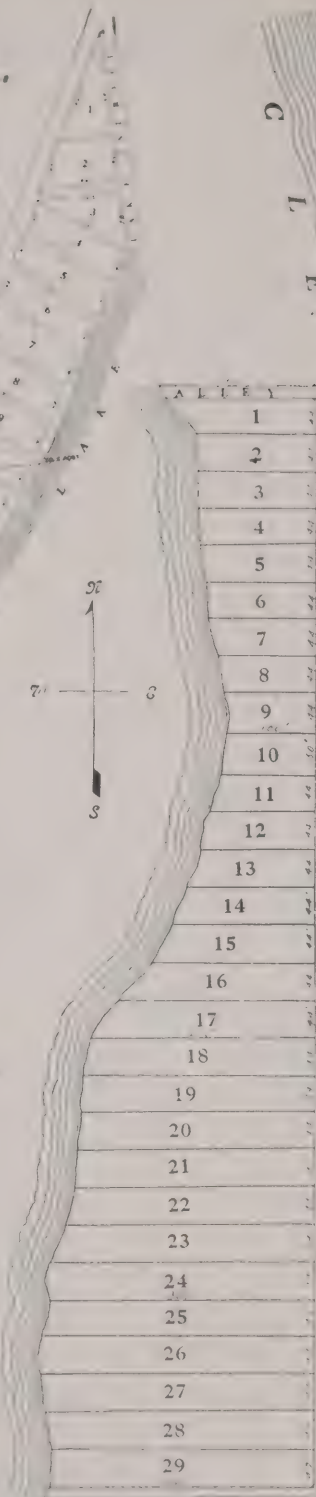
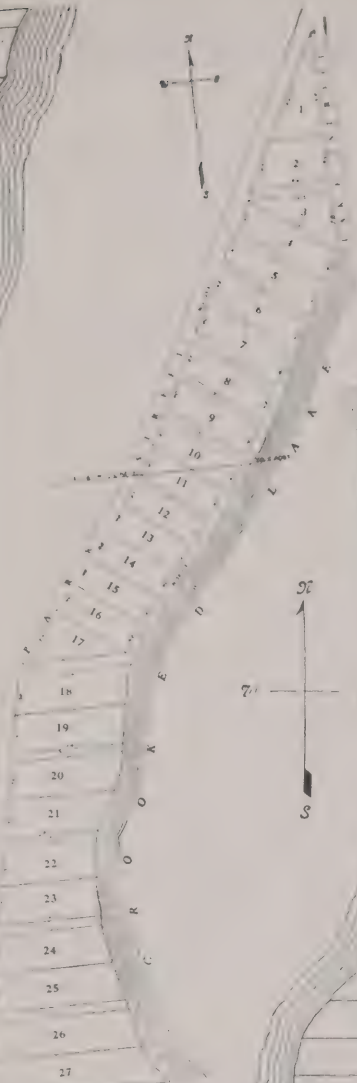


**UNCLE TOM'S PLAT**

Scale: 100 Feet to One Inch

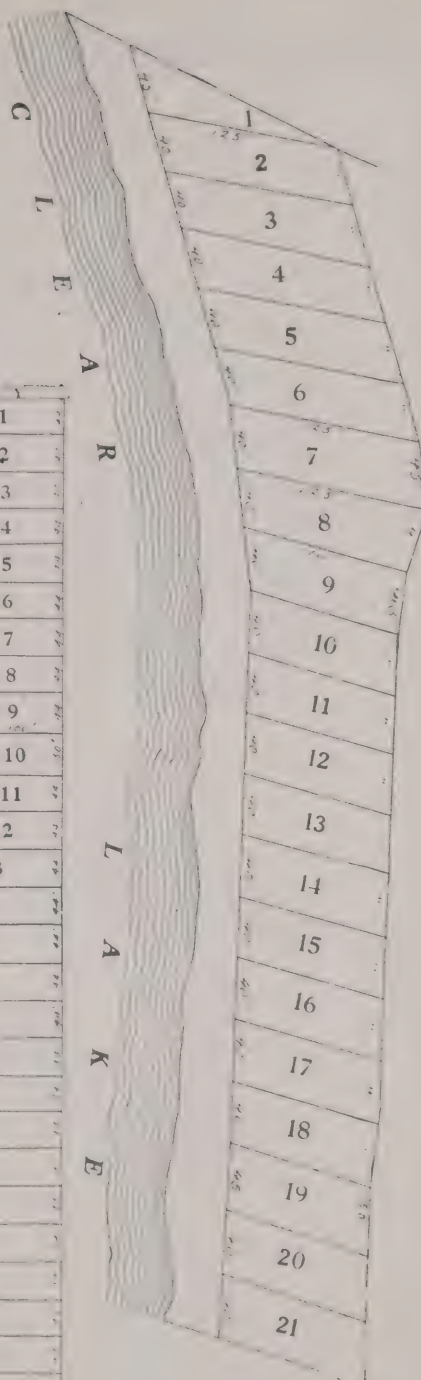
**ROSE LAWN**

Scale: 160 Feet to One Inch



**SILVER SIDE RESORT**

Scale: 150 Feet to One Inch



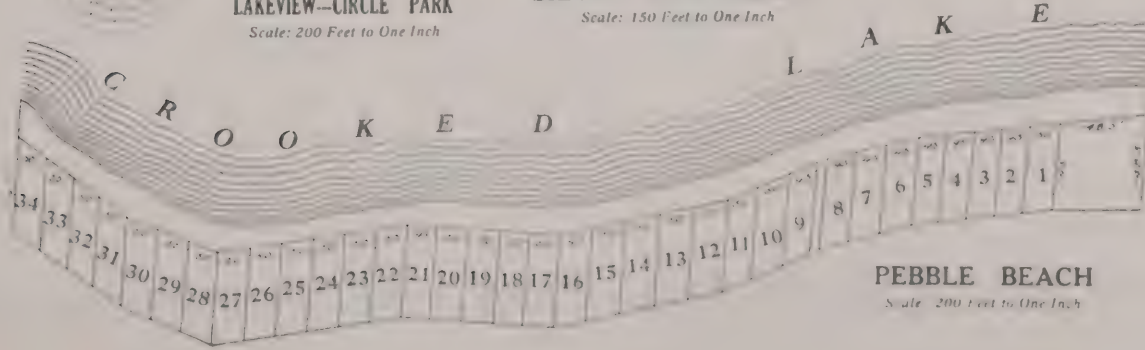
**EAST SAND BEACH**

Scale: 80 Feet to One Inch



**LAKEVIEW-CIRCLE PARK**

Scale: 200 Feet to One Inch



**PEBBLE BEACH**

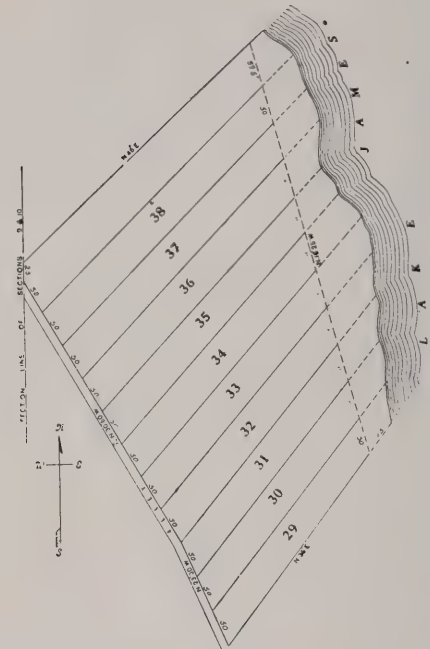
Scale: 200 Feet to One Inch





**PLEASANT POINT**  
LAKE JAMES

Scale: 200 Feet to One Inch



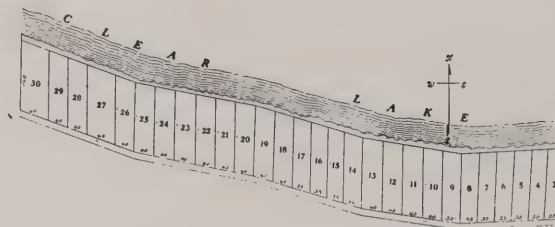
First Addition to  
**LAKE JAMES PARK**

Scale: 175 Feet to One Inch



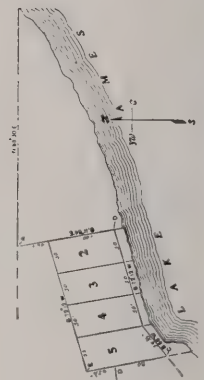
**ORIGINAL  
LAKE JAMES PARK**  
and Second Addition

Scale: 200 Feet to One Inch



**HOMESTEAD BEACH**

Scale: 260 Feet to One Inch

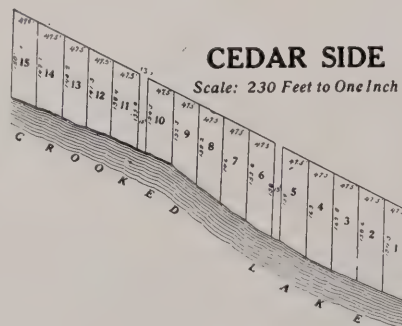


**ELI'S POINT**  
Scale: 200 Feet to One  
Inch



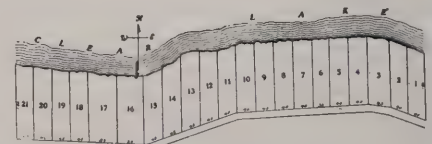
**BAY VIEW**

Scale: 330 Feet to One Inch



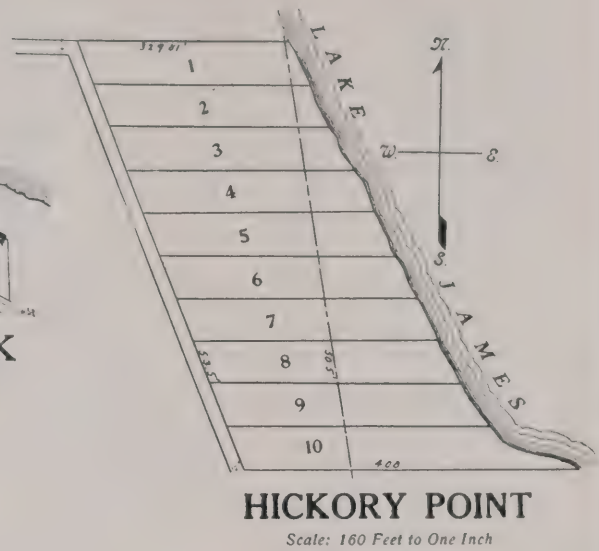
**CEDAR SIDE**

Scale: 230 Feet to One Inch

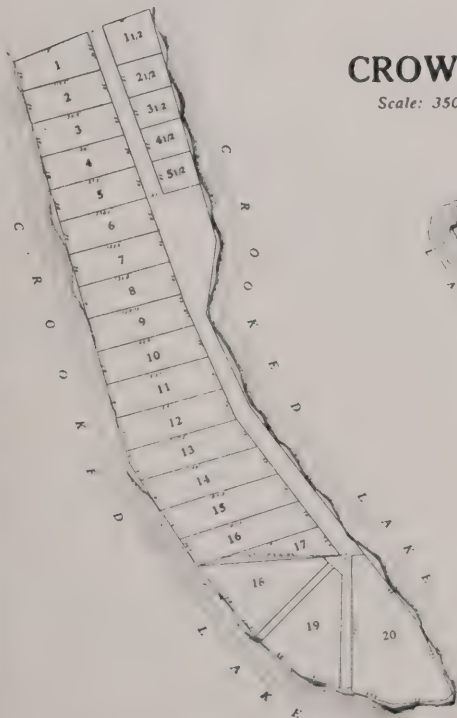
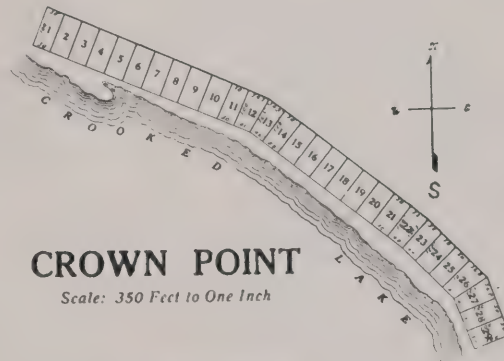


**HOMESIDE BEACH**

Scale: 280 Feet to One Inch

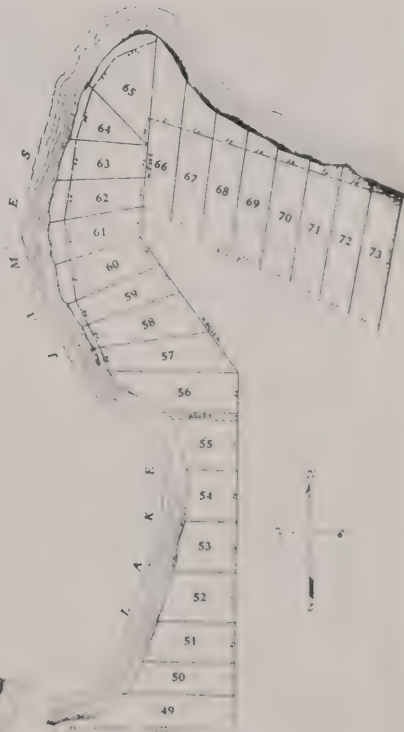


**MOUNTAIN PARK**  
Scale: 275 Feet to One Inch



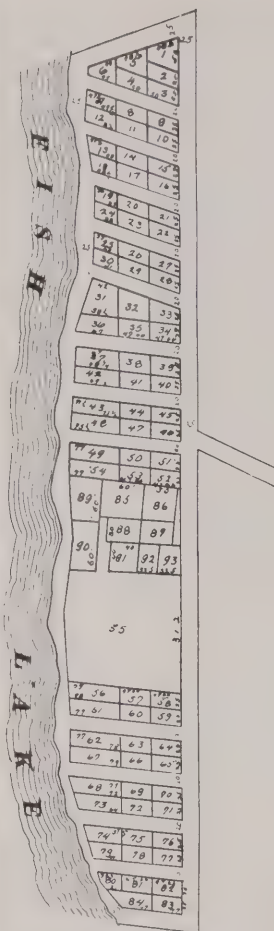
**RED SAND BEACH**  
Original Town and Second Addition  
LAKE JAMES

Scale: 400 Feet to One Inch



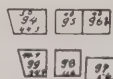
Scale: 200 Feet to One Inch



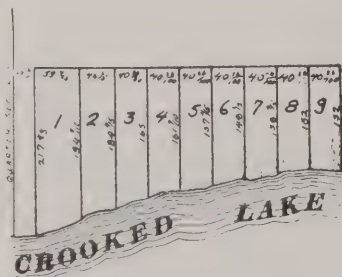
**COLD SPRINGS**

COTTAGE PARK

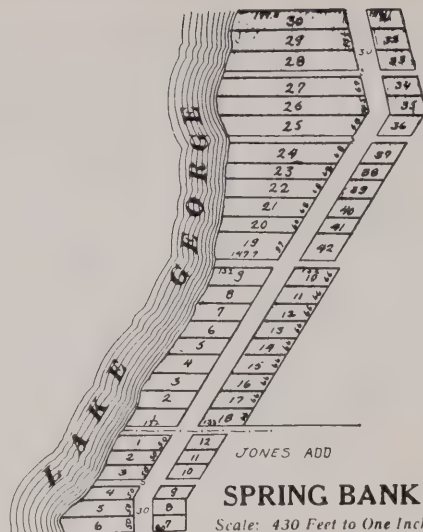
Scale: 200 Feet to One Inch

**FIRST ADDITION TO  
COLD SPRINGS  
COTTAGE PARK**

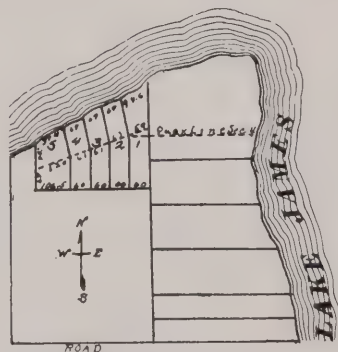
Scale: 200 Feet to One Inch

**PLEASANT HILL**

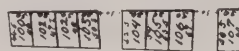
Scale: 150 Feet to One Inch

**SPRING BANK**

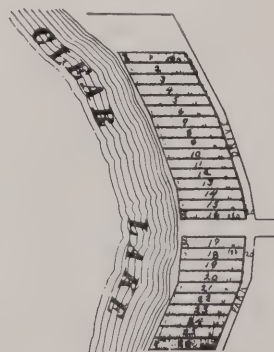
Scale: 430 Feet to One Inch

**SPRING POINT**

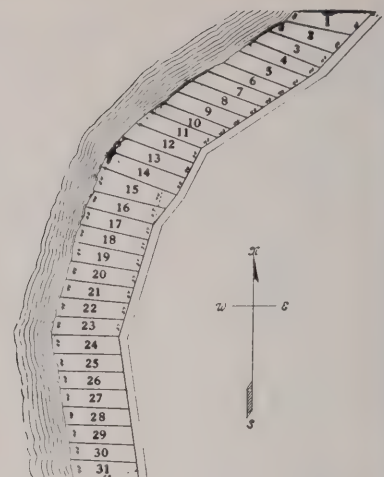
Scale: 400 Feet to One Inch

**SECOND ADDITION TO  
COLD SPRINGS  
COTTAGE PARK**

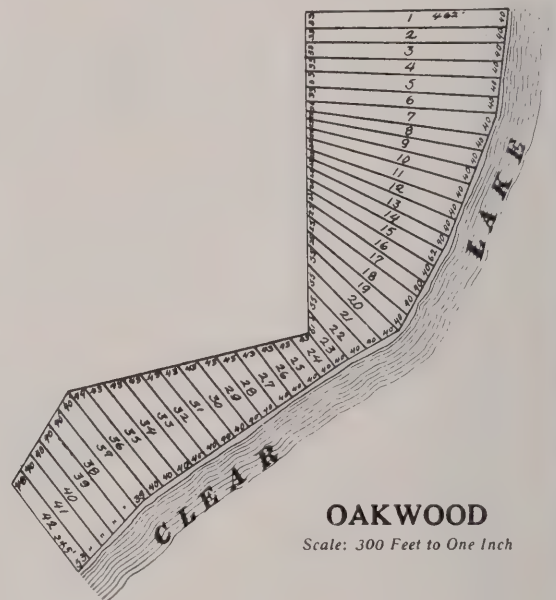
Scale: 180 Feet to One Inch

**OAK PARK**

Scale: 390 Feet to One Inch

**POINT WEETOOSE**

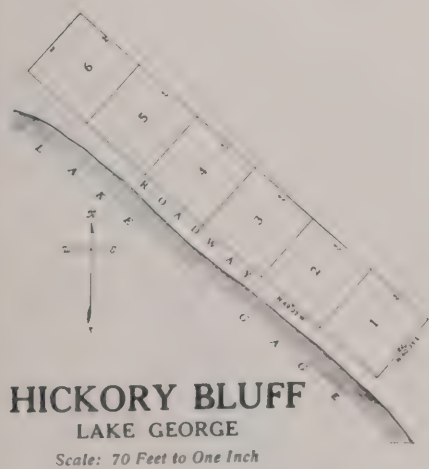
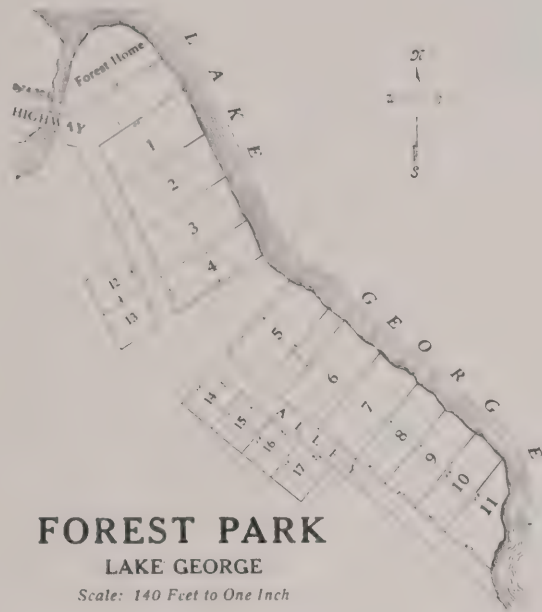
Scale: 300 Feet to One Inch

**OAKWOOD**

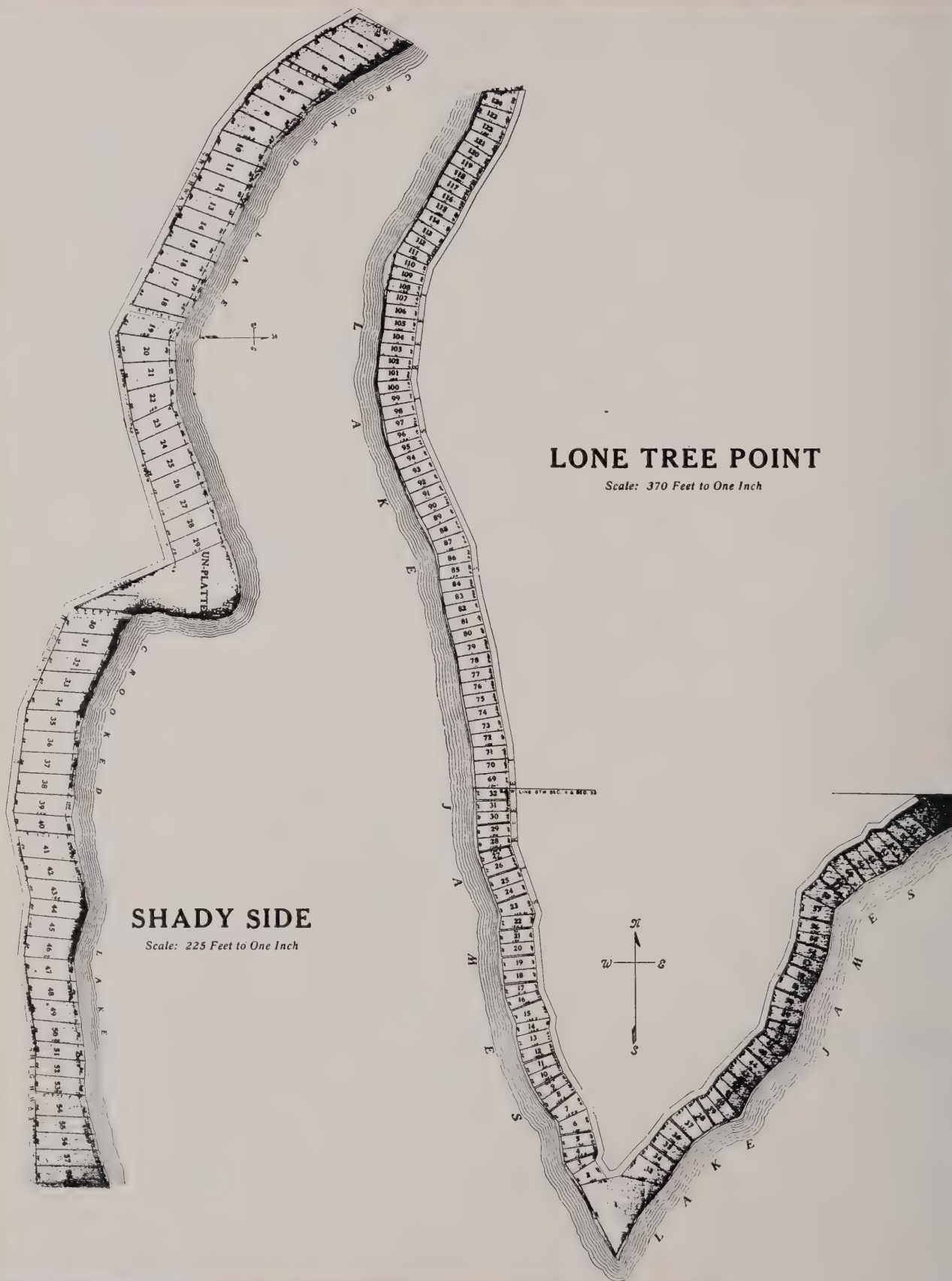
Scale: 300 Feet to One Inch

**LAKESIDE  
LAKEWOOD**

Scale: 300 Feet to One Inch







## Pictorial Section

### Steuben Pictorial Album

Photographs of People and Places  
Contributors to the Pleasures,  
the History, the Progress, and  
Prosperity of the Recreation—Plus  
County.



Presumptive  
CERTIFICATE  
No 1510. }

# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

**To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:**

**WHEREAS** *John Stayner, of La Grange County, Indiana,*  
has deposited in the **GENERAL LAND OFFICE** of the United States, a Certificate of the **REGISTER OF THE LAND OFFICE** at *Fort Wayne,*  
whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said *John Stayner,*  
according to the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," for the west half of  
the South East Quarter of Section Five, in Township Thirty seven, North, of Range Twelve, East,  
in the District of Lands subject to sale at Fort Wayne, Indiana, containing Eighty acres,

according to the official plat of the survey of the said Lands, returned to the General Land Office by the **SURVEYOR GENERAL**, which said tract has been purchased by the said  
*John Stayner,*  
**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,** in consideration of the Premises, and in conformity with the several Acts of Congress, in such case made and provided, **NOW KNOW YE,** That the  
and by these presents **DO GIVE AND GRANT,** unto the said *John Stayner,*  
and to his heirs, the said tract above described: **TO HAVE AND TO HOLD** the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances of whatsoever nature, thereunto  
belonging, unto the said *John Stayner* and to his heirs and assigns forever.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, Andrew Jackson,**  
**PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,** have caused these letters to be made **PATENT,** and the **SEAL** of the **GENERAL**  
**LAND OFFICE** to be hereunto affixed.

**GIVEN** under my hand, at the **CITY OF WASHINGTON,** the *fifth* day of *August* in the Year of our  
Lord one thousand eight hundred and *thirty four* and of the **INDEPENDENCE** of the **UNITED STATES**  
the *fifty ninth*.

**BY THE PRESIDENT:** *Andrew Jackson,*  
*Elijah Haymond* **COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.**

## INSCRIPTION ON JOHN STAYNER DEED

This deed was issued to the above named (John Stayner), first settler of Steuben Co. (then Lagrange Co.), for the first 80 acres settled in the county on Jackson Prairie, on the south side of the road just east of the Lincoln four corners, and is probably the oldest deed in the county.  
On this 80 was the first county seat after the county was set off from Lagrange and became Steuben (1837). The county business was transacted in part of the room called the weaving room of the Stayners. Several marriages were performed here.

Recorded, Vol. 3 Page 472 E & L



Daniel Wisel



A composite photograph showing Lincoln, Garfield, and a number of local persons and places.





#### MC NAUGHTON HARDWARE

Picture taken about 1903

From left to right: Seated in buggy, Earl McNaughton; standing between buildings, Fred McNitt, barber; standing in front of window, unknown; man with satchel, Mr. Stewart; next man, travelling salesman from Detroit; last man on right, Mr. Vaughn.



#### ANGOLA HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY CLASS OF 1921

Back row, left to right: Harold Garrett, George Stiefel, Howard Johnson, Clyde Spade, Ralph Fast, Ned Lowther, Nellie Coleman, Mark Sanders, Hazel Easterday, Frederick Graf, Marvin Allion.

Front row, left to right: Myrtle Frazier, Beulah Latson, Mary Pogue, Catherine Frazier, Wanda Lee Fast, Beulah Boyer, Jett Miller.

Picture taken by the teacher, John L. Estrich, and developed by the class.



Here are some of the beauties of yester-year. Their finery was the envy of the younger girls who were impatient to be "grewed up."

Bottom Row, left to right: Pearl Wirick Taylor, Weltha Sowle Weicht, Blanch Kemery Nagley, Reba McCall, Bess Kemery Wolfe.

Second Row: Blanch Reader Rubin, Mabelle Carver Sherrard, Bernice Sowle Ramsey, Dott Gibson Carpenter, Margaret Hubbard.

Top Row: Lela Morse McGrew, Nina Reader Kemery.





#### SALEM COMMUNITY THRESHING RING

Sitting, left to right: Gerald Ulmer, Albert Van Pelt, Raymond Holden.  
 Standing, left to right: Albert Slick, Frank Cool, George Ferrell, Wayne Hughes, Edward Beigh, Cecil Lepley, Porter Hughes, Robert Hughes, Harley Van Pelt, Doyle Holden.



#### UNIVERSAL TIRE PROTECTOR CO.

Left to right, standing: Albert Fletcher, Jesse O. Covell, James Crain, Edward Wolf, George Gibson, Hazel Purington, James R. Nyce.  
 Sitting: William Fink, A travelling machinist, Amos Wolheter, George Hall, George Ebel, Mr. Prentiss.



**HAY MAKING SCENE TAKEN IN 1915 ON THE FARM NOW OWNED BY DALE HUGHES**

Eddie Beigh, William Stout, Fred Barto, Porter Hughes, Unknown, Silas Beigh, Eugene Weicht, Crate Van Pelt, Grover Cool, Harvey Van Pelt, Sumner Hughes, Henry Rippey, Frank Cool.



**GROUP PORTRAIT**

Left to right: Front Row—Judge Townsend, Charles Kinney, Susie Sowles.  
Back Row—Fred Williamson, Harry Kelly, Jim Robinson.





Photographed at a Democratic Organizational Meeting. Left to right: T. P. Riddle, Enos Parsell, Alphonso C. Wood, Harold Kelley, Robert VanAman, Harvey W. Morley.



#### **SPHINX CLUB**

Standing: Enos Parsell, Imo Smith, Bruce Andres, Dean Cline, Gaylord Metzgar, Charles Osborne, Tom Emerson, Dick Andres, Robert Patterson, Melvin Kratz, E. J. Condon, Mark Woodhull, Mrs. Munger, James Crankshaw.

Sitting: Corneal Bratton, Earl Moss, Chas. Rodebaugh, Frank Hall, Craig Emerson, Herman Kohl, Lee Hirsch, an entertainer from Fort Wayne.





This is believed to have been Steuben County's first National Guard Company. Names were not obtainable.



**CAMPING SCENE**

Standing left to right: Guy Ritter, B. C. Smiley, Charles Burkhart. Names of others are unknown.  
Seated: Ike Enzor, Charles Stroh, Dave Ramsay, and Ben Dawson.









Front row, left to right: L. Gates, I. Williamson, G. McNeal, H. H. Owen, L. D. Creel, N. E. Sickles, W. S. Wells, N. W. Gilbert, W. W. Snyder, H. Linder, W. J. H. Watson, H. C. Hutson, J. E. Waugh, S. S. Ewers, Allen Fast.

Back row: L. E. Weicht, E. A. Carver, Ora Ewers, O. D. Scovell, Clark Ellis, T. R. Moffett, H. Menzenberger, W. C. Weicht, I. Kemery, Wm. Foster, L. G. Weiss, I. J. Metzgar, A. B. Stevens, John Walker, E. A. Bratton, S. A. Powers.



#### OLD GRADE SCHOOL PICTURE

Lower row, from right to left: Roy Hirst, Jasper Jennings, Elsie McCrory (?), Mabel Beard, Zula Miller, Frances Gillis, Clela Kirk, Iva Morse, Mabel McCrory, Wava Poland, Vina Enzor, Cora McNeal, Josie Snyder, Vera Gilbert, Edna Gibson, Winifred Orton.

Second row, from right to left: Hattie Mitchell, Frankie Sowle, Carlton Bodley, George Ireland, Ella Sharritt, Carl McGrew, Leopold Weicht, Ross Miller, Lottie Appleman (?), George McConnell, Emma Welch (Teacher), Burton Myers, May Sisen (?), Ethel Wickwire, Helen Gilts, Harry McKillen, Katie Weicht, Lena Goodaie, Frank Miller, Nellie Smiley, Esther Wickwire.

Top row, right to left: Earl Lemmon, Harry Sharritt, Will Wolford, Gene Carpenter, Claud McGrew, Herb Menzenberger, Guy Wolford, Ray Bolen (?), Roland Carey, Fred Elya (?), Vern Norton, Stephen Wambaugh, Louie Gates, Charles Sutton.





#### THE ORIGINAL 13 CLUB

Front Row, left to right—Nina Reader Kemery, Tina Elya Waller, Mabel McCrory Welty, Bess Burkhard Weldy, Gertrude Trowbridge Ireland, Iva Morris Regian.

Back Row, left to right: Florence Moore Estrich, Clela Powers Luse, Helen Gillis Devine, Pauline Wambaugh Wright, Kathleen Nyce Williamson, Nora Burt Goodale, Willa Wood Spillman.



#### TEN WELL-KNOWN YOUNG LADIES

Left to right, Back Row—Maude Russell—now Mrs. Morton Teal.

Zetta Enzor—Housekeeper for Hon. Frank Powers and Isaac Williamson. Had several sisters and brothers well-known to the older Angola citizens. She was unmarried.

Effa Phelps—Sister to Ada Welch, Ida Kemery and Baldwin Phelps. Both father and son took care of Angola High School for a long time. Lived on the corner where the H. E. Kratz' spent their last days, now the home of a granddaughter, Mrs. Kathryn Gordon.

Dora Menzenberger—Sister to Herb, Louie and Charley. She married Wm. Miller and had one daughter and one son.

Willa Gates—Daughter of Lawrence Gates, married Dr. Lane, had one daughter.

Left to right, Front Row—Lill Reeves—Daughter of Bill Reeves, jeweler in Angola, married, had one daughter.

Wilma Wickwire—Married William Elston, have two fine Doctors in Fort Wayne.

Fannie Squiers—Married Archie Wells, who ran a cigar store where Morris' restaurant now is. Had two daughters.

Allie Sowles—Sister to Josephine Hector, Flora Carver, Susan Williamson, and Bernice Ramsey. She married Walt Strayer, a ball player. California. Her father was a carpenter in Angola,

In Front—Carrie Finch—Unmarried, died in also ran a grocery store at Palmytown, Lake James.





#### ANGOLA POSTOFFICE EMPLOYEES

Taken about 20 years ago.

On Postoffice steps, left to right: Robert Sutton, Worthy Shuman, Glen McCool, Lee Brooks, John Goudy, Earl Dole, Bert Huff, Frank Tiffany, Winifred Hathaway, Everett Dixon, Guy Shaughness, Kenneth Rathbun, Irvin Metzgar, James Hall, Ralph Ewers.

Standing on Ground, left to right: Ralph Williamson, Bruce Boyer, Kenneth Miller, Floyd Faulkerson.



#### FIRST POLE SET BY THE STEUBEN COUNTY REMC

March 3, 1934

Persons in picture beginning at left side: Arthur Hayward (leaning on truck), C. L. Puffer, Manager, George Neutz, Leah Nelson, Eileen Henny (behind Leah Nelson), Mrs. Enola Rutherford (REA), Ora Butler, Isaac Eyster, Theron Miller, Floyd Ferrier, T. P. Charles, Glen L. Myers, R. A. Baker, Hugh Enfield. Men on truck employees Cater Construction Co.





### ANGOLA BRICK AND TILE COMPANY

Picture Taken in Year 1907

Front Row, left to right—Archie Jackson, Unknown, Herbert Beil, Roy Sowle, Ralph Cole, Marion (Ewers) Parks, Jim Hill, Cliff Cole, Unknown, Leland Ewers, George Ewers.

Back Row, left to right—Frank Braman, Myron Fisher, Frank Flowers, John Ewers, DeWitt Ewers, Eugene Ewers, Floyd Smurr, Harry Smurr, Ernest Timbers, Fred Morrow, Frank Cole, George Lowther.



### SCOUTS OF 1916

TROOP #1

Back Row, left to right: Oscar Pence, — Armstrong, — Miller, Mark Croxton, Adelbert Shank, Percy Hammond and Leonard Slaybaugh.

Second Row, left to right: Roscoe Crissinger, Assistant Scoutmaster; Walter Gordon, Carl Mast, Bayne Morley, Wymond Ritter, Scoutmaster; Bill Miller, Gerald Hubbel, Joseph Weicht, Wade Libey, Assistant Scoutmaster.

Front Row, left to right: L. L. Wolfe, Bill Austin, Emmet Spade, Frank Alspach, Fritz Graf, Wayne Swift, Lawrence Emerson, Alan Green.





The Richardson Dance Hall, on the north side of Crooked Lake.



**NAMES OF CUB SCOUTS ON PICTURE**

Lower front row, left to right: Charles Wilsey, Darl Wilson, Duane Tubergen, Claud Ray Johnson, Steve Southern, Donald Palmer, Don Cole, Mark Crain, Edward Johnson.

Second row: Glen Henley, Jerry Demorest, Lorraine Cole, Garry Henney, John Cather, James Moor, Gary Rocky, Gary Hornbuckle, Wallace Liechty, Tom Harmon, Gordon Sellers.

Third row: Jody Worthington, Richard Wilson, Ranald Gramling, Frank Anspaugh, Bill Dailey, Larry Brost, Bruce Anderson, Edward Sutton, Tom Douglas, Toby Clark.

Fourth row: John Henley, David Southern.





First Congregational Church, Angola, Ind.



The Old Block Church North of Salem Center



Clear Lake Baptist Church





# OLD SETTLERS DAY PORTRAIT

Left to Right: Back Row—E. D. Kemery, George McNeal, Irv Sowle, Bill Jarrard, Joe Brokaw, Ed. Williamson, Warren Robinson, Dave Wisley, Guy Wolford and George Gibson.  
 Third Row—Emmet Shank, Art Gibson, Ashley Barron, Claude Magrew, Jesse Lint, Charles Elya, Donald Fie, Harry Brandeberry, Charles Burkhart.  
 Second Row—Ben Dawson, Royal Carpenter, John Adams, Frank Adams, Harry Brown, Frank Bassett, John Zimmer.  
 First Row—Bill Maxfield, Frank Pattee, Olin Garwood, Burl Martin, Glen Dutter, L. C. Smith.  
 Reclining—Merrit Rector.





**SCENE AT MORLEY'S SNOW LAKE PLAT**

"Poems are made by fools like me, but Only God can make a tree."



**Picture of early Angola Fire Department.**



#### ORLAND BAND

Left to right—Manning Conkey, Drum Major; Chas. E. Helme, Bass Horn; Fred Frisbie, Trombone; Frank Thompson, Alto; Leon Jeffery, Horn Alto; Maynard Dudley, Cornet; George Keeslar, Cornet; Frank Salisbury, Cornet; Bernie Helme, Snare Drum; William Shumway, Bass Drum. Picture taken in 1886, in front of the Burnham House (hotel), which faced north on east and west road. Only part of hotel is shown. Back of the Drum Major is the road south to Angola. Fire destroyed the hotel and several other buildings many years ago.

Photograph by Coates and Slaflin, Salem Center, Indiana.



#### ANGOLA CITY BAND—1898

Lincoln Miller, Leader; A. E. Wells, Sec. and Treas.; Charles Mugg, Major; Chas. Freygang; Wm. Miller; Wm. Longabaugh; Bert Wilcox; A. A. Welch; Guy Gilbert; Chas. Cain; Geo. Goodale; Grant Miller; Frank Wilcox; Fred Powers; Ed Freygang; Chas. Horn; Ed Wilcox; Purse Nichols; Fred Richardson.





### OLD SETTLER'S DAY BAND

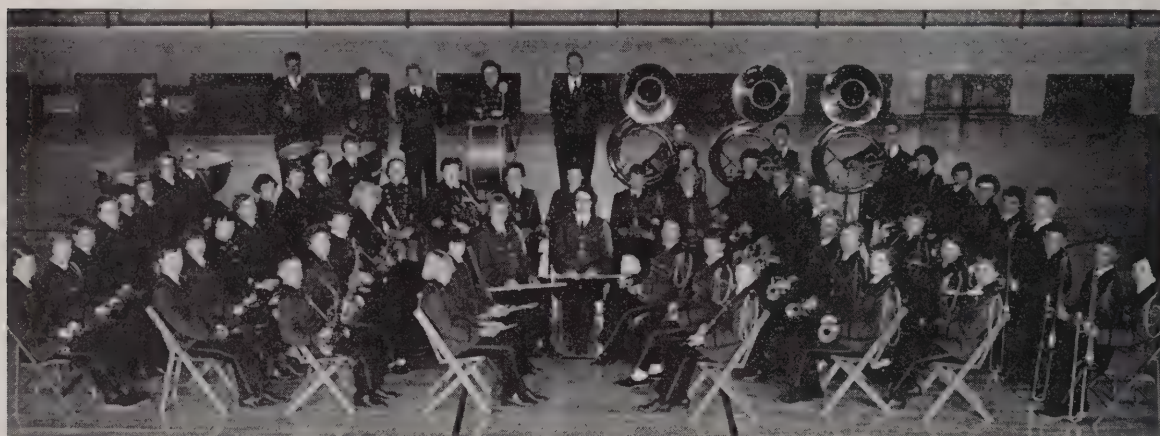
August 1912

Back Row, Left to Right: Bert Wilcox, Oscar (Spiel) Weiss, Imo Smith, Harry Maxfield, Walter McCoy.

Middle Row, Left to Right: Edward Wilcox, Thomas Gibbs, Leo Wilcox, Burton Richardson, Leon Gray, Fred Frisbie.

Front Row, Left to Right: Lee P. Hirsch, Harold R. Cain, Leighton Wells, Charles M. Cain, Fred Richardson, Director, Fred Powers, Lincoln Miller, Grant Miller.

This picture was taken in front of the Christian Church in Angola, Indiana.



### FREMONT HIGH SCHOOL BAND

—1954—

First row at left of picture, left to right: Veronica Kiser, Sharon Smart, Judy Gary, Arlene Schaeffer, Becky Hassett, Kay Latier, Lynn Hook, Pat Lomont.

Second row: Laura Conklin, Janice Meeks, Shirley Berry, Jean Noise, LuAnne Pifer, Judy Campbell, Jane Knauss, Beverly Gilchrist.

Third row: Roger Barry, Carol Walbolt, Margaret Moeller, Mary Ann Nichols.

Standing (Alto horns): LaMaine Bressler, Sandra Middleton, Diana Kinsey, Carolyn Sevits, Dennis Hook, Judy Gilchrist.

Flutes: Pat Munday, Barbara Gary, Barbara Gilchrist, Sonja Nelson, Marilyn Hardy. Oboes: Dianne Ebejar, Lorna Sellers.

Trumpets: Sharon Smith, Darlene Brown, Beverly Mills, Glenna Cole, James Langley, Carla Foss, Sandra Rathburn, Nancy Smart.

Next row: Judy Watters, Mary Jane Wall, Ruthanne Northam.

Bass: — Baker, Court Jarrett, Bill Noise, Mary Lou Mounts, Janet Rosenrock, Nancy Huss, Julie Hippensteele, Gayl Doster, Lanny Huss, John Kuntz, Rosalie Baker.

Back row, standing, left to right: LaVern Bressler, Jim Wynegan, Blaine Caywood, Jim Penner, Beverly Caywood, Mr. Hill (band director).





THE SALEM BAND IN THE EARLY EIGHTIES

Drum Major, George Dennison.

Top Row: Mike Parsell, Frank Woodford, Ellis Dewitt, Clem Free, Oat Mott, Frank Tubbs, Garrett Amerman, Andrew Greeno, driver.

Lower Row: John Elliott, Grant Wilson, Orla Parker, Lester Hughes, George Parker, Levi Ritter on the horse.





#### PLEASANT LAKE BAND

Arden Imhoff, Melvin Huffman, Ford Griffith, Clare VanAuken, Shirley Gilbert, Van Goodwin, E. McHenry, Earl Tuttle, John Gilbert, Jimmie Wichert, Blaine Huffman, Mort Huffman, Paul Ransburg, Willis Dahuff, Earl Deetz, Worthy Tuttle.



#### FLINT BAND

Left to right: Back Row—Seymour Fisk, Cornet; Clyde DeLancey, Cornet; Charles DeLancey, Slide Trombone; Paul Arnold, Slide Trombone; John Denman, Baritone; Elmer Hughes, Valve Trombone; Jay Denman, Cornet; Wesley Mercer, Valve Trombone.

Front Row: Ergene Denman, Cornet; Glen Golden, Clarinet and Director; Don Shank, Clarinet; Worthy Denman, Clarinet; David Benninghoff, Snare Drum and Librarian; Clarence Baker, Alto; Clifton Mallory, Alto.

Kneeling: Left—Perry Waite, Snare Drum; Right—Adam Shaffer, Bass Drum.  
Holding Flag: Left, Harrison Wyrick. Right—Esque Austerhout.



**METZ BAND ORGANIZED IN MARCH 1904**

Picture taken by Sherd Waller in 1905

Standing, left to right: Roy Robinett, Smith Williams, Vere Williams, John Eckman (deceased), John Chandler, Earl Sheline (deceased).

Seated: George Sutton (deceased), Clair Wisner, Stanley Fast (deceased), Lee Musser, Perry Tropp, Ray Musser.

Seated on ground: Mac Williams (deceased), George Ingledue.





**REMEMBER WHEN**—Do you remember this Angola baseball club of 1922, one of the leading semi-pro teams in this section at that time? One of its members, Charlie Gehringer, afterwards became famous as the great second baseman of the Detroit Tigers and later its general manager. Another, Pitcher Benny Frye, went to the majors with Cincinnati. In the picture, left to right: Bottom row—Lawrence Rohm, Charlie Gehringer, Ed Standish, Monkey Wetzel, Hank Ricketts, Jock Somerlott, first base and manager; Back row—Marion (Tarzan) League, Shorty Gross, Guy Kuhn, Benny Frye, Leo (Mac) Sweeney, Willis Love, business manager.

**People in stands:** First Row (left to right) (left of post): Louis Menzenberger. Marion Hetzler, Chas. Andrews; Second Row (left to right) (right of post): Chas. Kunkle, Warren Moss, Mrs. Moss, Lois Redding, Ellen Moss Rodebaugh.





This picture was taken at Hicksville in 1939 when the Angola Rotary Club beat Hicksville. Back row, left to right: Dr. Larry Wolfe, Jud Essenberg, Wendell Jarrard, Preston Moody, Irv King (Coach), Wendell Dygert, Chas. Rodebaugh (coach). Front row: Willis Roberts, Glen Beatty, Lee Hirsch, Harry Klink, Henry Willis, Ray Carver (coach), John Campbell.



**STEBEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU OFFICERS ELECTED BY  
THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MARCH, 1915**

President, W. A. Sniff; Vice President, Seth S. Avery; Sec., O. G. Barrett; Treas., Fred Weiss.

Members of the Executive Board: Clear Lake—Cyrus Kint, Pres.; Ray Troop, Vice-Pres.; Carl Kint, Sec.; Warren Throop, Treas. Jackson—F. N. Wilson, Pres.; Lloyd Killinger, Vice-Pres.; S. U. Doudt, Sec.; Frank Jackson, Treas. Otsego—K. C. Oberlin, Pres.; Seth Avery, Vice-Pres.; Jay Learned, Sec.; Glen Sweet, Treas. Fremont—Irvin Bricker, Pres.; Carl Peachey, Vice-Pres.; Fred Lott, Sec.; Harry Strunk, Treas. Scott—Frank Harmon, Pres.; Fred Weiss, Vice-Pres.; Henry Carpenter, Sec.; Sol Nichols, Treas. Millgrove—Jesse Lucas, Pres.; E. C. Salisbury, Vice-Pres.; C. H. Turner, Sec.; W. S. Ammerman, Treas. Jamestown—Elmer Van Guilder, Pres.; Frank Brown, Vice-Pres.; H. C. Burlingame, Sec.; Glen Brown, Treas. Salem—A. E. Emerson, Pres.; John Shumaker, Vice-Pres.; J. B. Hayward, Sec.; Frank Phillips, Treas. Pleasant—Will Sniff, Pres.; Frank Robertson, Vice-Pres.; Walter Ward, Sec.; Carl Redding, Treas. York—Henry Van Pelt, Pres.; David Smith, Vice-Pres.; Sanford McElhenie, Sec.; Dorsey Reese, Treas. Richland—Wm. Kohl, Pres.; Cyrus Allman, Vice-Pres.; Monte Dewire, Sec.; N. E. Metz, Treas. Steuben—I. I. Ferris, Pres.; Arthur Miller, Vice-Pres.; Jay Misner, Sec.; Frank Gilbert, Treas.





#### ANGOLA HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

Bottom Row, Left to right: Walter Goodman, Wayland Seely, Ford Zimmer, Augustine Williamson, Tom Emerson.

Top Row: Harold Cain, George Letts, Coach Calahan, Dean Cline.



#### 1903 ORLAND BASEBALL TEAM

Left to right, bottom row: Walter Rumsey, Jay Lucas.

Second row: V. Briner, Ralph Caswell, Cheseman (Bronson), Orval Huss.

Top row: Harry Wilder, Clint Rowley, Adelbert Crandall (Manager), Clyde Nolin, Malcom Light.



**BANKSON LAKE FISHING CLUB**

Picture Taken June 29, 1936

$\frac{1}{2}$  Day's Catch of Bass

Left to right—Dr. S. C. "Old Faithful" Wolfe; Harlow "Race Horse" Brown; Merle "Tarzan" Tucker; T. O. "Virtuoso" Mitchell; Edward "Whoopemup" Williamson; E. D. "Mousilanni" Kemery; Wm. "Doolittle" Jarrard.



**ANGOLA HIGH SCHOOL  
ALL STAR BASEBALL TEAM**

Top row, left to right: Chas. Isenhour, Prof. J. W. Wyandt, Supt. of Schools, Paul Weicht, Walter Randall.

Second row: Sam Sheffer, Artie Slade, Erman Shank, Charlie Elya.

Bottom row: Art Gibson, Ralph Blass.





#### **NATIONAL SERVICE CLUB FOR PAST PRESIDENTS OF AMERICA ORGANIZED AT ANGOLA**

Is now to be reorganized and its membership extended to other cities. This photograph was made by Dean Cline at the first meeting, at Hotel Hendry, Dec. 26, 1940. The name is protected by recordation at Washington, D.C.

Left to right: Clyde C. Carlin, judge of the Steuben-Lagrange Circuit Court; Merle C. Tucker, Harvey W. Morley, Prof. Roy Reppard, United States Senator Raymond E. Willis, Rev. Noah E. Smith, Eugene Maloy, Melvin W. Kratz, Charles Rodebaugh, Mayor E. D. Willis, Orville Stevens, Jo R. Bakstad, Ray Alwood, Herman C. Kohl, Corneal R. Bratton, John W. Hostetler, Joseph R. Laird, Wade E. Libey, Prof. Clayton H. Elliott and Ervin E. King.



#### **AMERICAN LEGION POST 31 COLOR GUARD**

Left to right: Cub Ulmer, Chuck Kratz, Dean Goings, Mac Hosack, Lee Hirsch, Dean Wilson, Andy Chalmers, Cleon Wells, George Meyer, Emery Boyd, Frank Tiffany, Ned Fisher.

Top Row: Bob Doyle, Don Cox, Roy Bodie, Bill Jarrard, Russell Wermer, Ted Wood, Bob Carey.





**CO. H, 157th REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—1898**

Captain—Newton Gilbert, First Lieut.—Robert Carpenter, Second Lieut.—Chas. F. Kinney. Sergeants—Arthur Norton, Frank P. Brewer, W. L. Jarrard, Bart Lowther. Corporals—Geo. B. Covell, Frank J. Pattee, Harley T. Brown, John G. Stuck, Geo. W. McConnell, Wm. E. Carrick, Frank Johnson. Musicians—Wm. E. Williamson, Lauren C. Griffith. Privates—Grant Ball, Edgar Bennett, Geo. Bennett, Geo. Brower, Edwin C. Barber, Carl Bartholomew, Thos. G. Carrick, Edw. C. Clark, James Cobert, Francis M. Coffman, Lorin Crandall, Joseph H. Clegg, Thos. J. Clutter, Jacob W. Davidson, Ora Denman, Bert Drushall, Freeman K. Enzor, Isaac Enzor, John L. Ewers, Albertus Fletcher, Charles Flint, Edw. Fairchild, Asa Fee, Ira O. Garwood, Chas. E. Gleason, Dudley W. Gleason, Samuel Green, Geo. Griffith, Geo. S. Gibson, Charles L. Gillipsie, Worthy E. Harmon, Wesley Huffman, Park Hathaway, Robert C. Hall, Calvin W. Hertz, Frank B. Holmes, Chas. W. Hyatt, Chas. N. Isenhour, Bert Jarrard, Ernest D. Kemery, Carl A. Kemery, Franklin M. Kimes, Orlando D. Knapp, Burr A. Lahmon, Geo. P. Light, Ernest Lindersmith, Robert Lutz, Jr., Ray Meek, Irvin Metzger, Charles Morse, Harry Miller, Leonidas L. McKuras, Edwin Norton, Perry Null, Wm. E. Parsons, Frank Persing, Ervin Playford, Arthur E. Rockwell, Emmett E. Shank, Frank Sharitt, Harry P. Sherrard, Morton Silbaugh, Boston Somerlott, Budd C. Smiley, Claude C. Smith, Clarence Strawser, Marshall Sunday, Clyde Sutton, John Sutton, Henry VanPelt, Lewellyn G. Walberry, Perry O. Walberry, John G. Willenar, Harvey E. Wolf, Clair B. Woodford, David M. Wiseley, Geo. M. Woodard.





Men who served in Co. "B" on Mexican Border in 1916.

Left to Right, Standing: Ed. Trowbridge, Frank H. May, Ray Cosner, Seth Thomas, Charles Price, Floyd Lock, Clarence Snyder, Harold E. Miller, Frank Masten, Wm. Drushall, George Aldrich, Ollie Drushall, Francis Strong, Dewey Vose, Mark Tully, Levi Norton, Jr., Archie Wheaton, Ora T. Clark, Edwin B. Carver, Harry D. Wolf, Lewis F. Kosch, Lewis B. Herschey, Jesse O. Covell.

Left to Right, Kneeling: Ford R. Vaughn, Oliver K. Appleman, Daniel J. Pursell, Vern Ather-ton, J. A. Howard, Wesley Wheaton, Alfred L. Shippy, Wm. B. Carpenter, Stanley Castell, Wil-liam Ickes, Leonard L. Shire, Irving H. Shaw, Harold M. Howell, James V. Bryan, Marion Smith, Roscoe Dahoff, LaMar K. Baxter, Willis Leming, Conway E. Yockey.

The little boy in the foreground is a Mexican boy who was fed many times while Co. "B" was there.



Dennis L. Wheaton, F.M., son of Mr. and Mrs. Dannie Wheaton of Jamestown Township, was born Oct. 14, 1934, and was graduated from the Fremont High School in 1953. He joined the U. S. Navy September 20, 1954, and served on the USS Corregidor T.C.V.E. 58.



**ANGOLA ROTARY CLUB'S FIVE FATHERS AND SONS**

Left to right: Back Row—Harry Klink, Lawrence Wolfe, Wendell Jarrard, James Williamson, Glenn Beatty.

Front Row—Lawrence Klink, Samuel Wolfe, William Jarrard, Edward Williamson, Clinton Beatty.



Pfc. Rendell Wheaton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dannie Wheaton, was killed in action in Italy during World War II, February 26, 1944. Pfc. Wheaton was awarded the Purple Heart and the Silver Star for gallantry in action against an enemy machine gun in disregard of his own life.





**LEGION BAND**  
**Angola Post No. 31**

Burton Richardson, Doan Sommerlott, Dr. Don Harpham, Al. Pearce, Frank Tiffany, Pete Meyers, Jack Gnagy, Lloyd Wilson, Ted Hopkins, Harry Crow, Carl Shumaker, Fred Zimmerman, Glen McCool, Chas. Rodebaugh, Henry Wolfe, Harry Ritter, Clifford Wilkinson, Warren Purdy, Bob Doyle, Lee Hirsch, George Hendry, Harry McKillen, Mike Showalter, Al. Williams, Paul Jackson, Everett Dixon, Dean Cline, Herman Kohl, Floyd Bowerman.





*E. O. Grosvenor*

First Locomotive to visit Angola (1870)



Public square on Centennial, July 4th, with 10¢ dance in Concert Hall. The Arch was built by direction of Wm. C. Weicht. Showing the city band with Carl Pierce and Well Hollister at the front.



Orland Depot



Former Residence of William Ferrier. Now owned by Harvey Morley.



N. E. Corner of Public Square—The Empire Store was moved from West Maumee St. It was built about 1856 on the present site of the Odd Fellow's Bldg. as an annex to the Old Eagle Hotel, the 2nd story being used as a ball-room. A. W. Hendry and Henry Merriman bought it and moved it to the East side of the Square where it was fitted and used by them for a store-room and known as the Empire Store. A. W. A. Sowle kept a Furniture Store there at one time. Mr. S. G. Long kept the first 10¢ Store in Angola in there about 1892. John Snyder used it for Carriages and Implements at one time. This bldg. was moved to N. Wayne St. to make room for the present Brick Block, and was then used by Greenwood Bodley as Plumbing Shop.





L. D. Jones Building, later the Croxton Block. Mrs. Abel Sowle's Millinery and dwelling next.



Load of feathers mired in mud on W. Maumee St. by M. E. Church.



East side of Public Square.



This is a picture from the effects of H. May Weicht, on which she had left this inscription: "N.W. corner of Public Square showing the 'Old Hole in the Wall,' old Carver building. Center Lake in the distance. The Methodist church on the old site, and old Brown building, Myron Howard's Saloon, Milo Dawson's lunch room. Back view of my old home, the old Pound where they ran in all the men that had imbibed too freely of corn juice, also showing the yard where the other stray cattle were kept. The Weaver home shows in the distance, and the old mill."



Showing the old Buckeye store, Orin Sowle building, Eberly and Longabarger Dry Goods, and Zipfel's old shoe store, at one time occupied (in 1862) by L. E. Weicht and Lyons as furniture store. After that Batterson and Eldridge kept grocery, later Charley Mellan kept grocery, ice cream and Oyster Saloon. Southwest corner of Public Square, looking up West Maumee St. The Patterson block, built by Robert Patterson, father of W. C., about 1861 or 1862. It was the first 3-story brick block in Angola and the first brick store building. Mr. Patterson kept a general store there for many years, sold his stock of goods to L. B. Morse (Sadie's father). Later S. A. Moss and L. B. Morse were together, and still later Moss and Sons.





COURT HOUSE AND JAIL



Street running north from Public Square, also showing old Town Pump, the L. D. Jones building, Wolford's tin shop, the Metzger home, the LeDue Home, and Lee Sowle home at right. The old Ben Brown building, Geo. Young home, the Mathew home, built by Dr. James McConnell, moved on S. Wayne St., owned by Mrs. L. R. Gilbert. Jacob Stealy's House just showing the roof. Next, the old Freygang house, the Moffat house in the distance. Mr. and Mrs. C. Weicht once lived in a log house where Hetzlers later lived.



Showing Old Town Pump. Southwest corner of Public Square. Jackson Block later the McDonald Block, Andy Hackett's Bakery. The frame Bldg. to the East was built by Wm. Carkhuff in 1854, who kept a store there, and Geo. Emerson and Fred Chapin kept a general store there for many years, Emersons' occupying the 2nd story as residence. Charley Mellan at one time kept a Grocery and Provision Store. When Joseph Stiefel came to Angola in 1869, he commenced business in the building. It was occupied by Thomas Gillis with a Grocery when it burned down about 1890.



To right, the Orin Sowle bldg.—Ice cream Parlor. Patterson Block at left—first three-story brick store building.



Old school house in the distance. Southeast corner of Public Square.



**DR. WOLFE'S 1904 ONE CYLINDER CADILLAC**

In front seat, left to right: Dr. S. C. Wolfe, Mildred Wolfe Somers, William Wolfe.  
Back Seat, left to right: Alice Martin Wolfe, Meda Freygang Wolfe.





We have no details regarding this picture.



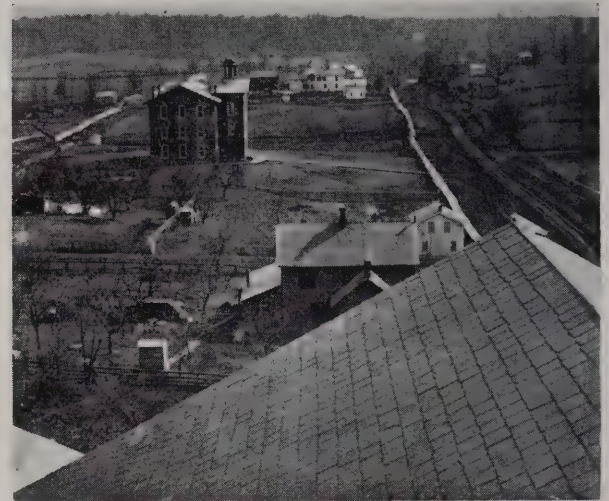
Angola Jail



Residence of Lawrence Gates



St. Joe Valley Line Station, Mongo, Indiana



Old School House, showing Snider house in the distance. Over the roof of the Court House you see the Darling and Brownfield (later Somers) homes. To the right, the Vanchy home.



Street running West to Depot—showing the Old Morse House to the right and the Old Cramer House to the left, where Collins Moss' House later stood. The Cap. Sowle house, and the Miller home. The Patterson home in the foreground. The Andy Young and later known as the Latson home. To the right, the old woolen mill, later Laundry and Feed Store. To the East, Frank Sowle home, the Darrale home, H. O. Merry, later Cline's home and Sowle property.





Showing the M. E. Parsonage, later Fred Richardson's and S. E. Morse's home in the distance. Dr. Rice home showing, evergreens in front yard. Empire Store moved from site of I.O.O.F. Bldg., and used as an Annex to Eagle Hotel, later moved on N. Wayne St., and in 1924 occupied by Greenwood Bodley as Plumbing Shop.



Showing west side of Public Square. Dr. Weicht's Old Paint Shop, house and Old M. E. Church in the distance. Carver's Drug Store and Post Office and "Old Hole in the Wall." The Old Eldridge Home and barn. Old Wickwire House. Just over the Church, the Freygang Home. Center Lake in the distance.



**OAK GARAGE**

This garage was at one time the Baptist Church, and was located at Orland, Indiana, on the Vistula Road.

Left to right: Cleo Rude, Henry Wooster, Robert Ernsberger (boy), Jay Penick, Wm. P. Booth, Richard O. Booth.





The oldest cottage now standing on Lake Gage. Built by Frank Parker about 75 years ago.



Hoosier Hills Observatory



Lake James Golf Course





**STEBEN COUNTY SCENES**

Left to right, top row: Views of Lake James.  
 Second row: Harrison's Boat Livery, Lake James; Hollywood Landing, Crooked Lake.  
 Third row: Lake View Hotel, Lake James; scene at Fox Lake.  
 Fourth row: Lake James scene; bathing beach at Pokagon State Park.





#### STEUBEN COUNTY SCENES

Left to right, top row: View of W. Maumee St., looking east; northwest corner of public square.

Second row: Scene at Lake James.

Third row: Bathers at Bledsoe's Beach.

Fourth row: St. Anthony's Catholic Church at Angola; Angola Public Library.

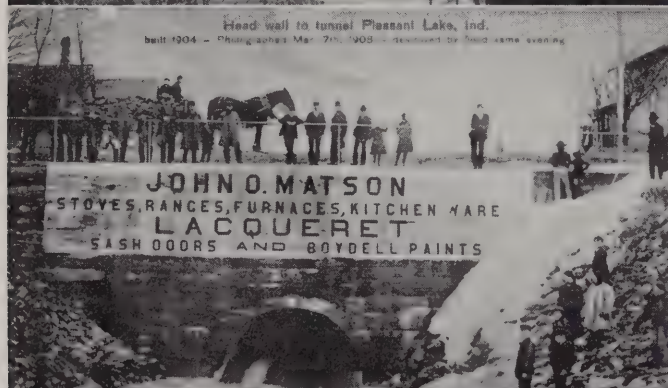




### STEUBEN COUNTY SCENES

Left to right, top view: Scene at Pleasant Lake Cemetery; Potawatomi Inn, at Pokagon State Park.  
 Second row: Pleasant Lake High School before addition was built; Angola High School.  
 Third row: Lake View Cabins, Pleasant Lake; scene at Fox Lake.  
 Fourth row: Lake James scene, Angola American Legion.





STEUBEN COUNTY SCENES





**STEBEN COUNTY SCENES**

Left to right, top row: Angola Public Square; The Chapel in the Garden.  
 Second row: Tri-State College Campus; scene at Lake James  
 Third row: Lake James scene; Angola High School.  
 Fourth row: Bledsoe's Beach; Monument on Angola's Public Square





This is a group of the "Bench and Bar" of 1898. Also the Angola Editors.

Here are their names in the order in which they are shown above:

Top Row: Left to right: O. F. Rakestraw, W. K. Sheffer, E. O. Rose, Raymond E. Willis.

Second Row: Frank S. Roby, Willis Rhoads, Newton W. Gilbert, Sol A. Wood, Emmett A. Bratton.

Third Row: D. R. Best, Judge Joseph A. Woodhull, Wm. M. Brown, C. C. Carlin, Chas. A. Yotter, Cyrus Cline.

Fourth Row: Stephen A. Powers, Frank Powers, Alphonso C. Wood, W. E. Heckenlively, John K. Morrow.

Bottom Row: Thomas S. Wickwire, W. G. Croxton, Emery G. Melendy, Cyrus B. Jackman.

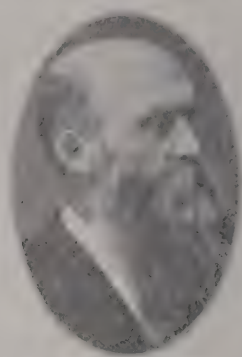
# PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER PROMINENT RESIDENTS



DR. FRANK B. DEGROOT  
Director First National Bank  
Angola



DR. WILLIAM E. RITTER  
Angola



DR. GEORGE W. WOOD  
Director First National Bank  
Angola



DR. HUGH D. WOOD  
Angola



DR. MARY THAYER RITTER  
Angola



DR. LAWRENCE L. DILL  
Angola



DR. G. N. LAKE  
Pleasant Lake



DR. O. H. SWANTUSCH  
Metz



DR. ROBERT L. WADE  
Fremont



DR. ROBERT L. WADE  
Fremont



W. H. HEYLER D.D.S.  
Orland



SAMUEL C. WOLFE, D.D.S.  
Pres. Universal Tire Protector Co.  
Angola



BENJAMIN F. WOLFE D.D.S.  
Fremont



FRED A. EMEPSON  
Commercial Traveler, Angola



CLAIR W. WISNER  
Merchant, Metz



FORD GOODALE  
Postmaster, Metz

These were not honored for what they received. They were honored for what they gave.



## PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND PROMINENT RESIDENTS



CHAS. LIBEY  
Trustee Salem Township



NATHAN E. SICKLES  
Trustee Pleasant Township



GEO. M. BROWN  
Trustee Otsego Township



HARLEY MERRIETT  
Trustee Jackson Township



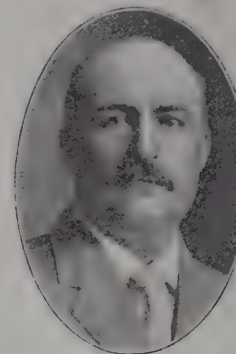
LYNN COLLINS  
Trustee Jamestown Township



D. C. RANSBURG  
Trustee Steuben Township



MILO THOMPSON  
Trustee Millgrove Township



FRANK COLE  
Trustee Scott Township



FRANCIS H. RAMSAY  
Justice of the Peace  
Angola



J. P. ALBRIGHT  
Member Advisory Board  
Fremont Township



LATTA F. HERSHEY  
Sheriff-Elect  
Assessor Jamestown Township



EDWARD GEORGE  
Assessor Steuben Township



WILLIAM W. ELSTON  
Deputy Game Warden, Angola



ZIBA Z. ELSTON  
Private Sec'y. to Congressman Cline  
Angola



GLENN VANAUKEN  
Joint Senator-Elect  
Angola



LAUREN E. SMITH  
with Angola Brick and Tile Co.  
Angola

PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND PROMINENT RESIDENTS



DANIEL SHANK  
Director Steuben County  
State Bank



ORVILLE CARVER  
Director Steuben County  
State Bank



L. C. STIEFEL  
Prop. Stiefel's Department  
Store



ALEXANDER JOHNSON  
Gen. Sec'y National Conference  
Charities and Correction



FRANK D. HUGHES  
Clerk Circuit Court



AUSTIN M. PARSELL  
County Sheriff



JAMES A. SHAUGHNESS  
County Auditor



FRANK C. DEWEY  
Deputy County Auditor



JESSE CRAMPTON  
County Treasurer



H. LYLE SHANK  
Supt. County Schools



CARY E. COVELL  
County Surveyor



THOMAS P. FRENCH  
County Assessor



LAWRENCE GATES  
Insurance



KENNETH L. MILLER  
Postoffice Clerk



JOHN CRAIN  
City Mail Carrier



GUY J. SHAUGHNESS  
Assistant Postmaster



# PROMINENT STEUBEN COUNTY RESIDENTS



SETH S. AVERY  
Farmer, Pleasant Lake



THOMAS W. TEEGARDIN  
Farmer, Hamilton



FRANK B. VAN AUKEN  
Farmer, Angola



ROBERT D. RAMSAY  
Farmer, Angola



MRS. JOHN HARPHAM  
Angola



MRS. FRED SCHNEIDER  
Stroh, wife of former County Clerk



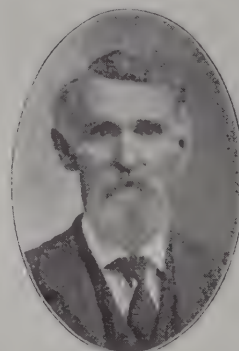
MRS. L. A. BARBER  
Metz



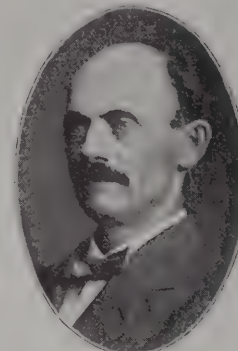
L. A. BARBER  
Retired, Metz



ENOCH CHARD  
Livoryman, Angola



GEO. W. MYERS  
Retired Farmer, Angola



CHAS. A. SHEETS  
Agent Standard Oil Co.  
Angola



JOSEPH BEIL  
Mgr. Bachelor Brick & Tile Co.  
Angola



PETER RICHARDSON  
Prop. Oak Bluff Hotel, Crooked Lake



J. R. CARY  
Photographer, Angola



HEMAN F. CARPENTER  
Director Steuben County State Bank, Angola



C. E. BEATTY  
Baker, Angola

# PROMINENT STEUBEN COUNTY RESIDENTS



LYNN C. BISBEE  
Insurance, Fremont



HERMAN STRAW  
Mgr. Creamery, Fremont



MRS. H. H. PINCHON  
Fremont



H. H. PINCHON  
Lumber Dealer, Fremont



ALFRED WESTWICK  
Contractor, Fremont



EARL HALL  
Mgr. Hammel Milling Co., Fremont



C. L. SHATENBERGER  
Fremont



E. C. DUGUID  
Merchant, Fremont



JOHN ZIMMERMAN  
Druggist, Ray



S. W. DUGUID  
Director First State Bank, Fremont



FRANCIS CLARK  
Director Bank of Fremont, Fremont



CHAS. F. MOORE  
Director Bank of Fremont, Fremont



OLIVER P. BROWN  
Horseman, Hamilton



BURTON YOUNG  
Breeder of thoroughbred stock, Ray



ALLISON S. SMITH  
Miller, Flint

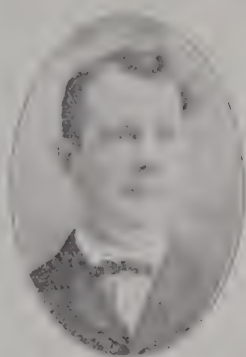


WARREN ARNOLD  
Merchant, Flint

This group served their communities and their county well.



# PROMINENT ORLAND AND PLEASANT LAKE RESIDENTS



WILLIAM J. CASE  
Auto Dealer, Orland



OLIVER STAYNER  
Veterinary Surgeon, Orland



ELLIS E. SWIGER  
Coal Dealer, Orland



DEWITT C. SALISBURY  
Mgr. Millgrove Creamery



HENRY C. GILES  
Commercial Traveler, Orland



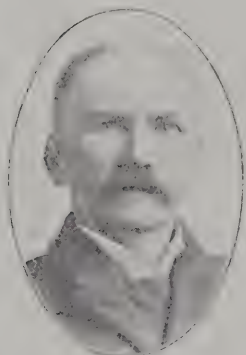
HENRY F. GILES  
Orland



FRANK G. SALISBURY  
Insurance and Real Estate, Orland



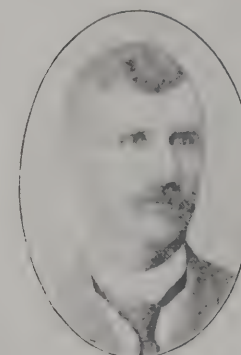
DON G. STUCK  
Postmaster, Orland



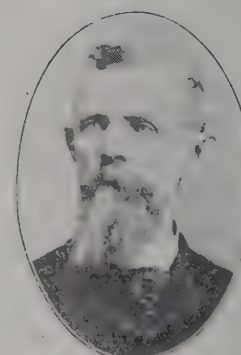
ROBERT N. SANDERSON  
Miller, Orland



EMMET WEHRLY  
of Helme Implement Store, Orland



GEO. H. ARVER  
of Arver & Wells, Orland



JOHN G. PARKER, (Deceased)  
Founder the Parker Store, Orland



WM. H. ANSTETT  
Implements, Pleasant Lake



FRANK H. CHADWICK  
Merchant, Pleasant Lake



ALVIN GOODWIN  
Wholesale Lumber, Pleasant Lake



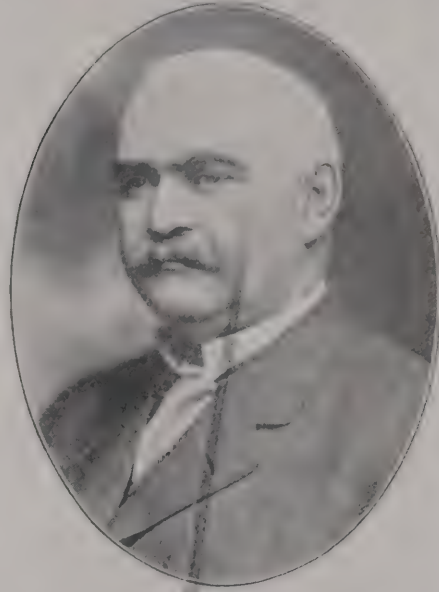
JOHN O. MATSON  
Merchant, Pleasant Lake

This is a group of our early civic builders.

CONGRESSIONAL, JUDICIAL, AND LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS



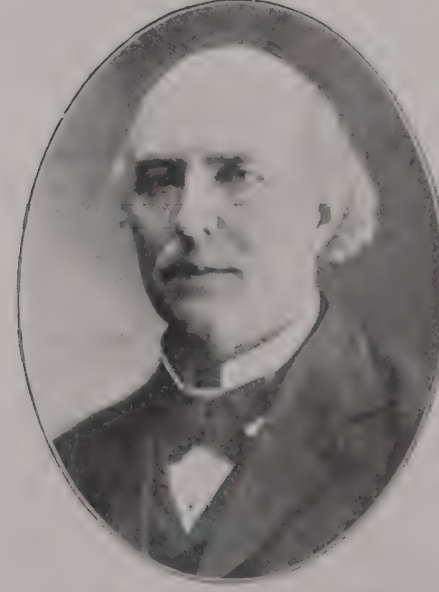
HON. CYRUS CLINE  
Member Congress, 12th Congress-  
1st District



HON. FRANK M. POWERS  
Circuit Judge, 35th Judicial Circuit



HON. MAURICE MCLEW  
Representative Steuben and LaGrange Counties  
in the State Legislature



HON. STEPHEN A. POWERS  
Representative Steuben and DeKalb Counties  
in the State Senate



## MEMBERS OF THE STEUBEN COUNTY BAR



JOSEPH A. WOODHULL  
Angola



DOAK R. BEST  
Angola



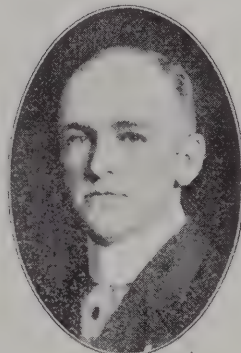
EMMETT A. BRATTON  
Angola



WILLIAM M. BROWN  
Angola



JAMES R. NYCE  
Angola  
Prosecuting Attorney-Elect



CHARLES BECKHOLT  
Angola



CHARLES A. YOTTER  
Angola



ALPHONSO C. WOOD  
Angola



CLYDE C. CARLIN  
Angola



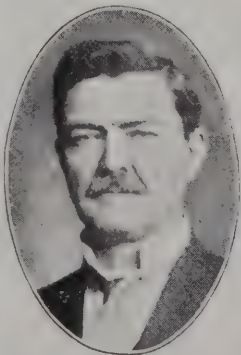
THOMAS WICKWIRE  
Angola



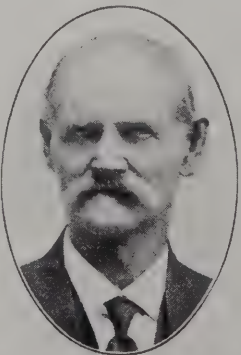
FRANK J. SAILOR  
Fremont



DUDLEY W. GLEASON  
Fremont



WILLIAM E. HECKENLIVELY  
Angola



JOSEPH BUTLER  
Orland

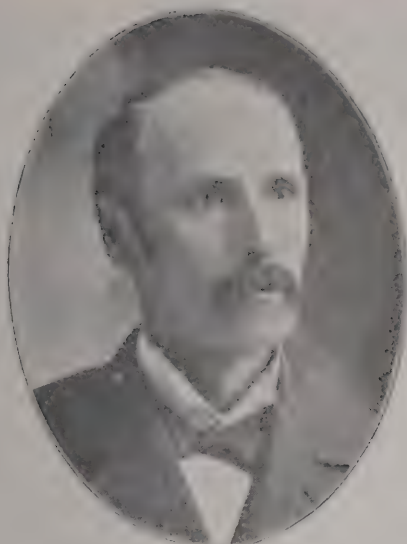


FRED SCHNEIDER  
Stroh



URIAH L. WAMBAUGH  
Angola

MEMBERS OF THE STEUBEN COUNTY PRESS



OSCAR F. RAKESTRAW  
Editor Steuben Republican



EDWARD D. WILLIS  
Editor Steuben Republican



RAY E. WILLIS  
Postmaster  
Editor Steuben Republican



HARVEY W. MORLEY  
Editor Angola Herald



WARREN D. WELLS  
Editor Fremont Eagle

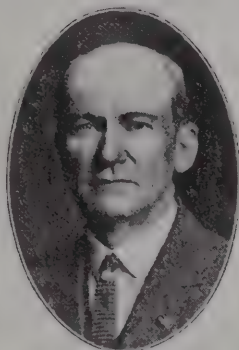


ARTHUR D. WELLS  
Editor Orland Zenith

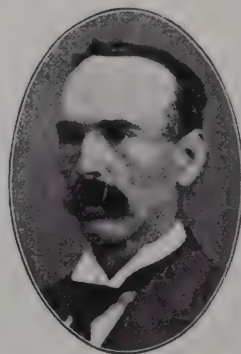
"Away back when," in fact in the 1912 Steuben County Atlas, these were our community leaders.



## OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF ANGOLA



E. M. HETZLER  
Proprietor of Angola Monument Co.  
Second Ward Councilman



CHAS. M. HUBBEL  
Councilman-at-Large



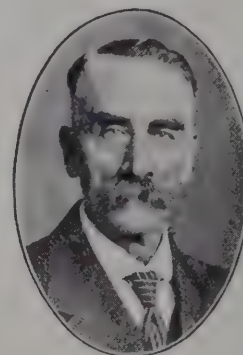
PROF. C. C. SHERRARD  
President of the Board of Directors  
of the Tri-State College  
Third Ward Councilman



FRANK T. DOLE  
Councilman-at-Large



THOMAS OWENS  
Proprietor of Owens Poultry Packing House  
Mayor



H. F. THOMPSON  
First Ward Councilman



ANDREW J. SNYDER  
City Marshal



ROY HIRST  
City Clerk



J. D. CASSEL  
City Police

## BUSINESS MEN OF THE CITY OF ANGOLA



E. J. WILLIAMS  
of Williamson Hardware



W. F. WILLIAMS  
of Williamson Hardware



WILLIS W. LOVE  
Prop. Love's Cigar Factory



G. A. HENDRY  
of L. A. Hendry & Co



ARCHIE E. WELLS  
Prop. The Tobacco Store



HOWARD C. JACKSON  
Prop. Jackson's Pharmacy



JOE BROKAW  
Merchant Tailor



ROSS H. MILLER  
Merchant Tailor



JOHN A. CROXTON  
President Steuben County  
State Bank



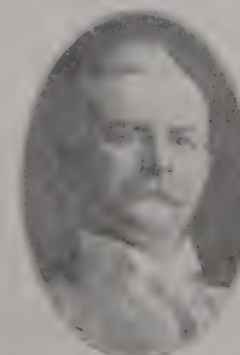
EMMETT S. CROXTON  
President First National  
Bank



JOHN HARPHAM  
Director First National  
Bank



HARRY E. WILDER  
Manager Home Telephone  
Company



EDWARD POWERS  
Real Estate



LAWRENCE N. KLING  
Funeral Director



AMOS JUNOD  
Mgr. Junod Grocery Co.



CARL REDDING  
Prop. Redding's Jersey Dairy

Steuben History is made by people. These men helped to make ours.



## BUSINESS MEN OF THE CITY OF ANGOLA



JOS. W. GOODWIN  
Mfr. Hardwood Lumber



JOHN W. BUTZ  
Mfr. Hardwood Lumber



BURDETTE B. GOODALE  
Abstractor



ORVILLE GOODALE  
Abstractor



J. EDWARD WOLFE  
Supt. Universal Tire Protector Co.



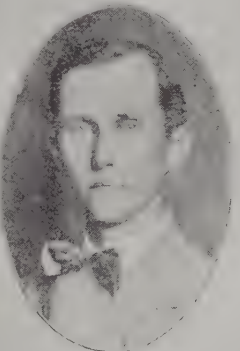
A. FRYSSINGER  
Prop. Frysinger Pharmacy



DENNIS TRIPLETT  
Merchant



GEO. E. MALLORY  
Director First National Bank



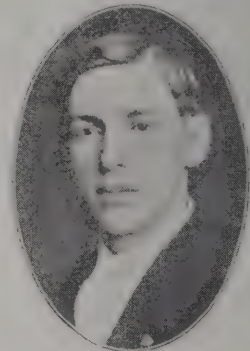
ELMER TRITCH  
Insurance



J. MACK FISHER  
Barber



JOHN F. ADAMS  
Barber



W. LEE BENDER  
Barber



WILLIAM H. WATSON  
Prop. Watson's Hotel



LEE BROOKS  
Prop. Brooks' Restaurant



PAUL BROOKS  
Prop. Brooks' Restaurant



HENRY WIRICK  
Prop. Hotel Wirick

"There's a spot that I love, in the County Steuben," and these men loved it, too.

# BUSINESS MEN OF THE CITY OF ANGOLA



JONAS SOMERLOTT  
Mgr. Beyer Bros. Poultry House



CLAUDE MORSE  
Mgr. Indiana Utilities Co.



CHAS. O. BURKHART  
Modern Steam Laundry



GUY RITTER  
Modern Steam Laundry



GEO CONKLIN  
Mgr. Conklin Music Store



ADEN L. SEELEY  
Insurance



EDGAR C. STAFFORD  
Insurance



IVAN W. CLEM  
Insurance



FRANK SALON  
Upholsterer



HERBERT H. HIGBIE  
Merchant



B. J. BOHNER  
Jeweler



HARRY L. SOWLE  
Cigar Manufacturer



W. C. SMITH  
Angola Ice Cream Co.



WALTER E. EVES  
Angola Ice Cream Co.



GLEN FROST  
Prop. Angola Garage



ALFRED COLLINS  
Prop. Angola Garage



## BUSINESS MEN OF THE CITY OF ANGOLA



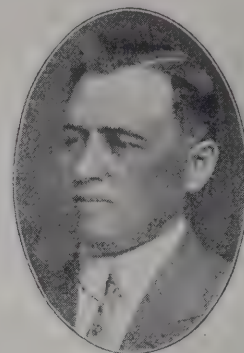
FRED W. SHELDON  
Grain Merchant



ROYAL J. CARPENTER  
Cashier Steuben County State Bank



JOHN B. PARSELL  
Cashier First National Bank



EZRA L. DODGE  
Cashier Angola Bank



FRANK E. JACKSON  
Merchant



WILLIAM K. SHEFFER  
Newspaper Correspondent



ALVAH E. ELSTON  
Merchant



HENRY E. KRATZ  
Prop. Kratz's Pharmacy



FRANK ZABST  
Implement Dealer



HOWARD W. DUGUID  
Implement Dealer



CHAS. ELYA  
Mgr. Croxton Theatre



FRANK D. PARKER  
Furniture Dealer



H. B. WEICHT  
Funeral Director



F. GIBSON  
Baker



CHAS. E. WELLS  
Grocer



FRANK E. BURT  
Jeweler and Optician





Top row, left to right: Greg Victor, 6 mos., son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene German; Karen, 4 yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bingaman; Marilyn Louise, 2 yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wyatt; Keith Duane, 4 yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Edmon A. Mortorff; Terry Lee, 4 yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mansberger.

Second row: James Herbert, Jr., 6 mos., son of Mr. and Mrs. James Fuller; Linda Lee, 3 yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edmon A. Mortorff; Cindy Lee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Thrush; Dixie Lee, 6 mos., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Carpenter; Kevin, 1 yr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Bingaman.

Third row: Elsie Louise, 3½ yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Gordon; Glenda Sue, 8½ mos., daughter of Donald D. Cleverly; Judy Ann, 5 yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edmon A. Mortorff; Martin, 4 yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Mitchell; Lewis Frederick, 3 yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Williamson.

Bottom row: Merri Lee, 5 mos., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Carpenter; Marie Ann Krieger Kemery, 10 mos., daughter of Joseph and Delia Krieger; Steven Dale, 2 yrs., son of Donald D. Cleverly; Ronald Lynn, 7 mos., son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Waite; Elina Hazel, 5 yrs., daughter of John and Marie Sindel.





Top row left to right: Mark Cole, 1 yr., son of Robert and Alberta Cole Allion; Dawn J., 4 yrs.; Michael Reuben, 5 yrs., children of Burdett and Ileen Ridenour, grandchildren of Reuben L. and Esther Ridenour; Dorsey DeWan, 4 yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Dawson H. Fifer; Randy, 4 yrs., son of Deak and Rosie Deller.

Second row: Priscilla Kae, 6 mos.; Margaret Rae, 6 mos.; daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Porter; Franklin DeMoyné, 2 yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Dawson H. Fifer; Elaine, 3 yrs., daughter of Roscoe and Christine Deller; Jody Carlos, 1 yr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wren.

Third row: Candy, 3 mos.; Ricky, 1 yr., children of Deak and Rosie Deller; Duke, 4 yrs., son of Roscoe and Christine Deller; Roger J., son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Green; Stuart, 4½ yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ringler.

Bottom row: John Wayne, son of Wayne and Anna VanDyne; Josephine Fifer Stackhouse, 5 yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dawson H. Fifer; Isel, daughter of John and Addie German; Phillip, 5 yrs., son of Roscoe and Christine Deller; Sylvia, 2 yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ringler.



Top row, left to right: Robert, 6 mos., son of Mr. and Mrs. William Allion; Helen Rosa Lee, 4 yrs., daughter of Jesse and Margaret Carr Greenamyre; James Barton, 7 mos., son of Mr. and Mrs. Morris Collins; Stanley, son of Robert and Olive Hall; James Lee, 1 yr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Wilson.

Second row: Terry Lynn, 5 yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Pristas; John Kimsey, 2 yrs., son of Jesse and Margaret Greenamyre; Nickie G., 3 yrs. son of Mr. and Mrs. George D. Golna; Michael Craig, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Pristas; Sarah Jan, 6 mos., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Sellers.

Third row: Robert Joseph, 5 yrs., Suzanna Katherine, 2 yrs., Joan Rozella, 1 yr., children of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Wilson; Jeanne Rae Pristas, 2 yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Pristas; Harriet Allion Kingsbury, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Allion.

Bottom row: Rubetta Hall Rose, daughter of Robert and Olive Hall; Harvey, 5 yrs., Harley, 4 yrs., sons of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Allion; Gayle Louise, 4 mos., daughter of Jesse and Margaret Greenamyre; Marvin, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Allion.





Top row, left to right: Glenna Mae, 2 yrs., daughter of Glen and Neva VanWagner Golden; Dessa Sunday Wolf, daughter of Henry and Dora Sunday; Paul Richard II, 5 mo., son of Paul and Jeanette Birchman; John Roger, 7 mo., son of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin DeMoyne Fifer; Cynthia Ann, 2 yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Allen.

Second row: Brent Charles, 8 mo., son of Rose and Jack Clark; Irene Lavon, 2 yrs., daughter of Franklin and Josephine Vogtman Henney; Gregory Lynn, 6 mo., son of Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey DeWan Fifer; Garna Lee, 2 yrs., daughter of Glen and Neva VanWagner Golden; Rebecca Ann, 6 mo., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey DeWan Fifer.

Third row: Steven Harland French, 3 yrs., son of Mrs. James Wisner; Diane Sue, 6 mo., daughter of Albert and Josephine Fifer Stackhouse; Margaret Ellen, 1½ yrs., daughter of Augustine and Mildred Williamson; Phillip D., 6 mo., son of Albert and Josephine Fifer Stackhouse; Tommy, 10 yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Christlieb.

Bottom row: Anne Kathren, 16 mo., daughter of Paul and Jeanette Birchman; Deborah Jo, 6 mo., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey DeWan Fifer; Constance Williamson McCoy, 3½ yrs., daughter of Susie and Fred Williamson; Dawson H., 4 yrs., son of Fred and Mable Ressler Fifer; Jerry Miller, 12 yrs., son of Mrs. D. C. Anstett.





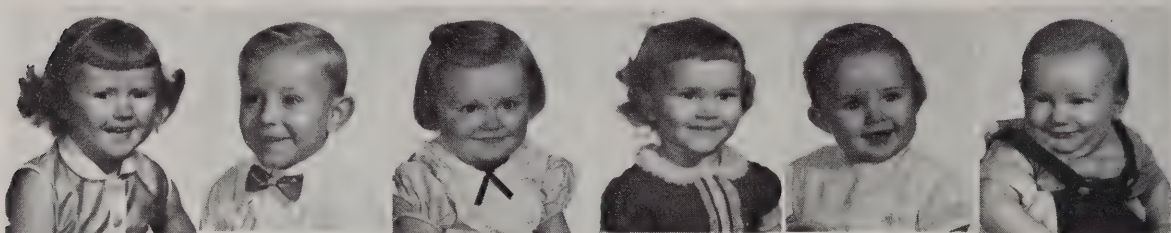
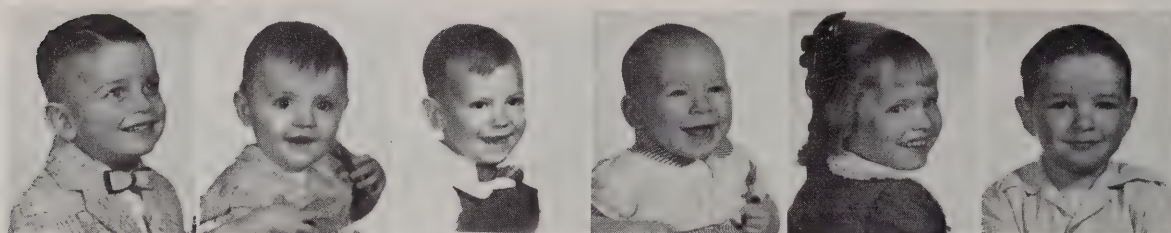
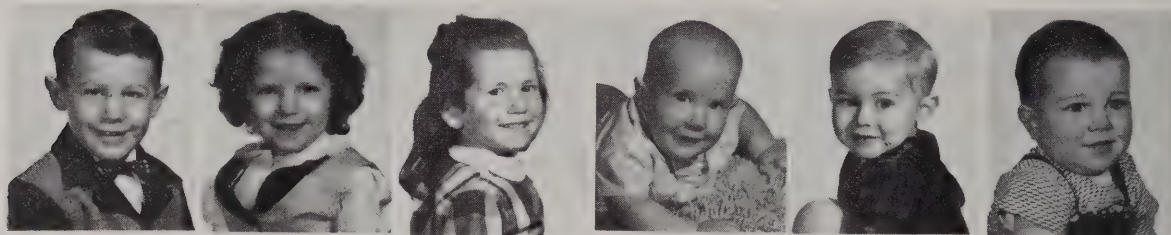
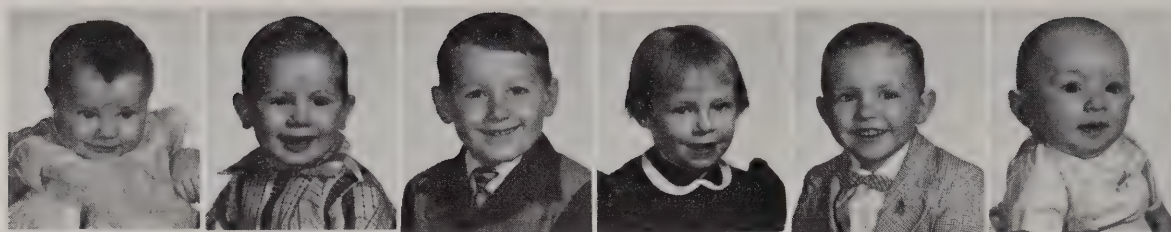
Top row, left to right: Isaac Augustine, 4 yrs., son of Susie and Fred Williamson; Dolores May, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Allion; George Rogers, 6 mo., son of Jack and Rose Clark; Vera Sunday Swager, daughter of Henry and Dora Sunday; Kathryn Lee, 4 yrs., daughter of Augustine Williamson.

Second row: Bayne, son of Edna B. and Harvey W. Morley; Sue Lynn, 3 yrs., daughter of Burdett and Evelyn Ford Leas; Mary Malinda, 2 yrs., daughter of Fred and Susie Williamson; Patricia Jo, 2 yrs., daughter of Fred and Catherine Thobe Bennett, granddaughter of Joe and Gladys Thobe; Sharon Miller, daughter of Mrs. D. C. Anstett.

Third row: Fred, son of Edna B. and Harvey W. Morley; Morley, son of Richard and E. Eliza Morley Mozer; Emily Ruth, daughter of Jennie and Jack Croxton; Robert Hall, son of Robert S. and Olive J. Hall; Cathy Gwen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Allen.

Fourth row: Bruce, son of Hugh and Margaret Jennings; Rickie, 3 yrs., son of Richard and Eliza Morley Mozer; Alana Rae French, 5 yrs., daughter of Mrs. James Wisner; Linda Lee French, 7 yrs., daughter of Mrs. James Wisner; Mary Ann, 5 yrs., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Augustine Williamson.



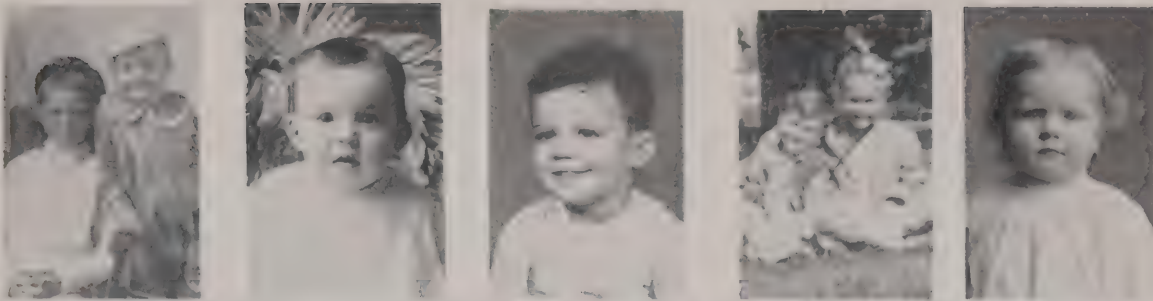


Top row, left to right: Willa Darlene, 2 mos., daughter of Walter Rockey; Douglas, 2 yrs., son of Robert Hutchins; Carl, 6 yrs., son of Kenneth Butz; Deborah, 4 yrs., daughter of Robert Hutchins; David, 4½ yrs., son of Robert Hamman; Kenneth, 4 mos., son of Charles Shumaker.

Second row: Robert, 3 yrs., son of Kenneth Butz; Patricia, 3 yrs., daughter of Robert C. Bryan; Sharon, 3 yrs., daughter of R. C. Smith; Daniel, 6 mos., son of Duane Oberlin; Derold, 18 mos., son of Glen Covell; Larry, 1 yr., son of Eldon Andrew.

Third row: George, 4 yrs., son of Roger Gilbert; Ida, 8 mos., daughter of Paul Firestone; John, 2 yrs., son of Marline Carey; Charles, 4 mos., son of Charles Klink; Rosalie, 5 yrs., daughter of Roland Kilburn; Kelly, 4 yrs., son of Wayne Klink.

Bottom row: Debra, 3 yrs., daughter of Dale Cole; James, 5 yrs., son of Marline Carey; Karen, 18 mos., daughter of Robert Hamman; Molly, 2 yrs., daughter of Robert Wheaton; Patricia, 7 mos., daughter of Michael Pristas; Larry, 4 mos., son of Lawrence Wooster.



Left to right: Bayne and Fred Morley, age: 5 and 3 yrs., sons of Harvey W. and Edna B. Morley. Mary Heath, 7 mos., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Heath. Heath Hurlbert, 3 yrs. grandson of Mr. and Mrs. George Heath. Barbara Ann and Larry Robert Wheaton, children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wheaton. Esther Eliza Morley Mozer, daughter of Harvey W. and Edna B. Morley.



Philip, Robin, and James. Sons of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wren.



Ellen Dygert Hershey and Florence Dygert, daughters of George A. and Emily Gilbert Dygert.



Donnie, Jim, and Bob. Sons of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Snyder.



#### BOY SCOUT TROOP OF 1910

Names are in order as faces appear in picture, left to right:

Dominic Ferrara, Troop Leader, Robert Van Cleve, St. Clair Van Auken, Ralph Patterson, Walton Van Cleve, Donno Wolf, Newton Dygert, Mark Frisbie, Harold Cain, DeLoss Goodale.

Mr. Ferrara was Professor of Military Tactics at Tri-State College, and was from the East, where he probably learned about Boy Scouts. This may well be one of the very first troops in the middle west.



## Biographical Section

We should have no history if it were not for people. Hundreds have here been named. That is the theme of this enterprise. Our business, professional, educational, and other residents of today whose biographies follow, promoted and built our social and other enterprises, and it is fitting that their biographies are in this Historical section. The pioneers and other older residents subdued our forests, drained our swamps, built our roads, enriched our farm lands, established and maintained our schools and churches. They whose life stories follow inspired the younger county leaders whose biographies are here preserved for posterity in this permanent way. In fact the earliest efforts and inspirations of our pioneers have been explained by the poet who wrote:

### The Bridge Builder

An old man, going a lone highway,  
Came at evening, cold and gray,  
To a chasm, vast and deep and wide,  
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.  
The old man crossed in the twilight dim—  
That sullen stream had no fears for him;  
But he turned, when he reached the other side,  
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,  
You are wasting strength in building here.  
Your journey will end with the ending day;  
You never again must pass this way.  
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide,  
Why build you the bridge at eventide?"

The builder lifted his old grey head.  
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,  
"There followeth after me today  
A youth whose feet must pass this way.  
This chasm that has been naught to me  
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.  
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;  
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him."

### Biography of John B. Allman

John B. Allman was born in Williams County, Ohio, November 23, 1856. Several generations of his family were identified with the westward march of civilization. His great-grandfather, Ebenezer Allman, moved to Stark County, Ohio, in 1810, and was one of the first to develop that section of the Ohio wilderness. His grandfather, James Allman, who was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, in 1806, grew up in Stark County, married Margaret Anspaugh in 1829, and in 1842 they moved to Williams County, Ohio, where they were among the first pioneers. James Allman died in 1846, survived by his widow Margaret, who was born in 1810, and died in 1890. James Allman and wife had seven children, Barnabas, Heyman C., John, Jacob, Catherine (Mrs. William Ingram), Magdeline (Mrs. Thomas Ingram), and Agnes (Mrs. Wesley Pew). The eldest son, Barnabas, was the father of the subject of this sketch.

Barnabas Allman, father of John B., was born in Stark County, Ohio, March 20, 1833. At nine years of age he went with his parents to Williams County, and there grew to adulthood in a farm community west of Montpelier. In January, 1856, he was married to Ellen Barcalow, daughter of John and Martha White Barcalow, who had been born to them in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in September, 1833. In the year 1864, Barnabas Allman with his family settled in Richland Township, Steuben County, Indiana, on a farm one-half mile south of the village of Metz. Here he became well-known as an honest citizen, a prosperous farmer, a skilled carpenter, and an able Justice of the Peace. He died in 1888, and his widow died in 1902. Their children were: John B., Edith M. (Mrs. Ford Norris), Heyman C., Martha J. (Mrs. Clair Wisner), James, and Margaret (Mrs. B. B. Goodale).

John B. Allman attended the district schools in Richland Township, and gave his full share of work on the home farm. December 17, 1881, he was married to Evalyn Benjamin Barron. The father, Elmus Barron, was born in New Hampshire in 1823, and came with his parents LaFayette and Arvilla Bradford Barron to make the first settlement in York Township in the fall of 1836, locating where the village of Metz now stands. Elmus L. Barron and wife had four children who grew to adulthood. They were, Evalyn (Mrs. John B. Allman), and three sons, Alcinus, Fayette, and Ashley Barron.

After his marriage, John B. Allman settled on a farm near Metz, and in that vicinity continued to live until October, 1907. During the years 1896-1900 he served as Richland Township trustee. And during the period 1908-1912 he was Clerk of the Steuben Circuit Court, and lived with his family in the city of Angola. Following this term of office he returned his residence to the Metz community, and there continued to operate and supervise his farm until his death January 4, 1940, age 83 years. Perhaps the most outstanding characteristic of his life was his consecrated Christian service. For many years he served his church as a deacon, an elder, and as Bible school superintendent and teacher. The home kept by him and his good wife was a haven of rest for Christian evangelists and ministers of the Gospel. His wife, Evalyn, died April 15, 1940, age 80 years.

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Allman were the parents of four children: Elsie May (Mrs. William Peter Faulhaber), Roxie Ellen, (Mrs. Thurman P. Charles), Heyman B. Allman, who married Ethel Mae Chard, and James Carl, who died at the age of fourteen years.

### Biography of Oliver Kenneth Appleman

Oliver Kenneth Appleman, son of Ira R. and Jennie (Oliver) Appleman, was born March 24, 1890, near Brushy Prairie, Indiana, on the old Ira Appleman farm. He was the second son in the family of four sons and one daughter, they being Ira Royal of Detroit, Harold and Keith who preceded him in death, and Irene, now Mrs. Hanley Zeis. His father died in 1939 and his mother in 1941.



He attended the public schools of LaGrange County, being graduated from LaGrange High School in 1909. A graduate of Tri-State College, he also did graduate work at Columbia University, New York City, and the University of Michigan, where he was affiliated with Phi Delta Kappa. He taught school for 32 years, the last 20 of which were in the Detroit Public Schools, from which profession he retired in June 1949.

During his years of teaching in Detroit he made his home with his brother Royal and, upon his retirement, with his sister near Fremont.

His long military career began when he joined



the Indiana National Guard at Angola in 1912. In 1916 he served on the Mexican Border as a sergeant in the regular army. He was commissioned a first lieutenant in the First World War and saw overseas duty in France. Following World War I he held a reserve commission in the Field Artillery, transferring to the Air Corps when called to active duty in World War II. He was base executive officer at Baer Field, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and commanded the Air Bases at Glasgow and Great Falls, Montana. In 1944 he retired as a colonel in the Air Force Reserves.

Colonel Appleman devoted his life to a military and educational career in which he made a wide circle of friends to whom he was steadfastly loyal. To his family he was as the Rock of Gibraltar, giving dependable aid, unchanging love, and devotion. He believed in and practiced the old-fashioned virtues of honesty, integrity, and thrift, believing deeply in accomplishment through honest effort and toil. He lived his life in the homes of others, was pleasant, self-effacing and uncomplaining—ever placing the welfare and comfort of others ahead of his own. He departed this life May 3, 1952, at the Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan, at the age of 62 years.

### HE LIVED A LIFE

What was his creed?

I do not know his creed, I only know  
That here below, he walked the common road  
And lifted many a load, lightened the task,  
Brightened the day for others toiling on a weary  
way:

This, his only meed; I do not know his creed.

His Creed? O care not what his creed;  
Enough that never yielded he to greed,  
But served a brother in his daily need;  
Plucked many a thorn and planted many a flower;  
Glorified the services of each hour;  
Had faith in God, himself, and fellow-men;  
Perchance he never thought in terms of creed;  
I only know he lived a life, in deed.

H. N. Fifer

### Biography of W. A. Paul Bachelor

W. A. Paul Bachelor was born in Millgrove Township, Steuben County, December 13, 1887, a son of Ira and Etta Patterson Bachelor.

His grandfather, Amos Bachelor, was born in Lake County, Ohio, in 1825, and was eleven

years old when brought to Indiana. He married Susan Burroughs, a daughter of Reverend Truman Burroughs, who was a pioneer Baptist minister and who carried the gospel through several counties in Indiana and Michigan.

Amos Bachelor was one of the highly successful farmers of Steuben County, and at one time owned over 500 acres of productive land. With the exception of five years he spent all his active career on the farm in Millgrove Township. In 1899 he retired and moved to Angola where he died in 1905. He and his wife were the parents of four children: Ellen, Ira, Fremont, and Elmer.

Ira, Paul's father, in his individual career manifested many of the fine business qualities of his father. He acquired a good education, and taught school for three terms. Being musically inclined, he enjoyed this talent to a large degree. He lived for more than thirty years in Millgrove Township. The Ira Bachelors had three children: Clyde, Io, and Paul.

Paul started school in the little red schoolhouse west of the Bachelor farm, with his sister Io as his teacher. He attended high school at Orland, and later, college at Tri-State, receiving a degree in Pharmacy. He then became a registered Pharmacist in Wabash, Indiana.

While in Wabash he met and married Bessie LaSalle, daughter of John LaSalle of Wabash. They moved to the farm home in Millgrove Township and brought with them a Jersey heifer given to them as a wedding present by Bessie's father. They farmed for five years, after which the Pharmacy profession called him to Huntington, Indiana. Six years later, in 1930, Paul again moved back to the farm, where he went into partnership with Fred Terry, his brother-in-law. Paul bought an interest in the store at Nevada Mills, then together they bought the Fremont Bachelor farm and also operated the home farm. They specialized in raising fruit, and also had a large Jersey dairy herd. At one time they raised thirty acres of strawberries and had one hundred pickers a day. The berries were trucked to the Detroit market. Paul was also an apple specialist, growing and selling fine fruit.

After six years the partnership was dissolved and Paul received forty acres from the Fremont Bachelor farm as well as the home farm. Later he bought two other tracts of land and increased the size of the farm to 536 acres, which he owned at the time of his death, August 22, 1951.

As a farmer, Paul was much interested in Farm

Bureau and was chairman of Millgrove Township for a number of years. He was also chairman of the AAA of Steuben County for eleven years.

To Bessie and Paul were born five children: Harold, who attended Tri-State College and is now an electrical engineer with Westinghouse Corporation at Baltimore, Maryland; Charles, who owns and operates 270 acres in Millgrove Township; Max, who owns and operates 547 acres in Millgrove and Jackson Townships, and the orchard on the home farm; Betty, the wife of Alvard Graham; and Dorothy, who is Mrs. Donald Twichell.

Paul was very much interested in music and singing, and at the time of his death was chorister at the Nevada Mills Church, of which he was a member.

### Biography of Donald W. Bailey

Donald W. Bailey was born on April 23, 1899, in Syracuse, Indiana, the son of James and Martha Bailey, and came to Orland, Steuben County, in 1917. He worked on the farm for Guy Friend, northeast of Orland, until August 6, 1919, when he was married to Veldine C. Rumsey, the daughter of Howard and Floy Rumsey.



They rented Mr. Friend's farm of 224 acres, until the tornado in the spring of 1920 hit and destroyed the house where they lived, and three barns on the farm and all of the out buildings. As there were no buildings or fence on the farm they sold out and bought the Frank Penix farm one and one-half miles east and one-half mile north of Orland, and they lived there two years and sold the farm. Then they bought where they now live, one mile east of Orland on state highway 120. In 1945, they bought the farm across the road from where they now live. The house on this farm is a large stone house, built about 1838. It is in a good state of repair.

Donald has been Jury Commissioner of Steuben County for the past 18 years and is a Director on the Steuben County Farm Bureau Co-op board of directors of the R.E.M.C., and a Trustee of the Joyce Public Library in Orland. They belong to the Orland Methodist Church where Mrs. Bailey is Superintendent of the Sunday School.

They have two children and one grandson. The

daughter, Judith Joan, is married to Donald Booth and they have one son, Donald Douglas. The son is James Daniel, who was 16 in June.

The Booth family lives in Orland and James is at home, a junior in the Orland High School.

### Biography of Johan R. Bakstad

Johan R. Bakstad was born in Christiania (now Oslo), Norway, January 28, 1889, the oldest son of Soren Olsen Bakstad and Hanna Marie (Larsen.)



Soren's father was Ole Olsen, who resided at the homestead of "Bakstad," which literally translated means: "outside of town" and from which the family name originates.

Ole Olsen was a farmer, storekeeper, and postmaster, and had nine children: Randine, Ole, Kristian Ludvig, and Soren, with his first wife; and four children with his second wife, who was a sister to his first: Laurits, Marie, Marius, and Elizabeth.

Soren, who was born on June 10, 1860, went at an early age to Oslo and enlisted in the "Royal Guard"—Non-Com. Officers School.

He met and married Hanna Marie Larsen, who was born (and educated) in the Royal Palace of Copenhagen, Denmark, on March 13, 1861, to Samuel and Elizabeth Larsen who were with the Palace Staff in charge of the Wine Cellars and Vintage Supplies. There were three other children, Olivia, Augusta, and Christian.

Hanna was on a visit to Norway with members of the Royal Palace as lady in attendance in 1882, and Soren was on duty as Royal Guard. This visit resulted in their marriage on October 24, 1882.

Soren was later in the Brewery business for 37 years until his death in January, 1925; and his wife Hanna, died in June, 1931.

Their children were: Ella Olivia, married to Olaf Klinkenberg, in 1907, while on a visit to the United States; Thorleif, who died when a year old; Sigrid Elisabeth, who married Harold Klinkenberg (brothers). Both are widows, residing in New York. The sons were: Bjarne Johan Ragnvald, now known as just "Jo"; Samuel, who became a Sea Captain and was submarined and lost his life off



the coast of England during the first year of the first World War in 1915; Erling Ludvig, who lives on a farm in Norway; and Hjalmar Severin, who is a prominent architect in Oslo, specializing in Government Buildings.

"Jo" (Johan abbreviated) was educated in the Latin School of Oslo, being graduated from High School in 1904. He spent the following year in the shops of "The Electric Bureau," a branch of Westinghouse Electric, and in 1906-7 he attended the Technical School of Oslo University.

In 1907 he had a yen to visit the U. S. and after arguments with his father, landed in New York at 11 A. M. on Nov 11, 1907, which, 11 years later, became Armistice Day.

Due to the business depression at that time, Jo wound up on a farm in Virginia, Steamshipping on Chesapeake Bay and handy-man in an Atlantic City Hotel; but in 1909 and 1910 he held a good job as maintenance man for repair and upkeep of Crushing and Mill Machinery at Carteret, N. J., in which work, with overtime pay, he was able to save enough money to help make it possible to return to College. Thus, he came to Tri-State College in October, 1910, and was graduated with a BS and ME degree in June, 1912.

After seven years with Bethlehem Steel Company of Pennsylvania, and Northern Engineering Works in Detroit, Michigan, he was employed by the Good Roads Machinery Co., as sales engineer in Chicago. He remained with them until 1923 in the Gravel and Rock Crushing business, when he entered the Engineering Sales business on his own, in the meantime developing an idea for a new departure in Rock Crushers. His development, which combined 3 crushers in a single unit to provide a greater ratio of reduction from course to fine products in one operation, was patented in 1925. He then organized a company to promote the manufacture and marketing of his invention, known as the "Bakstad 3-Jaw Crusher," in which he was quite successful. In 1929, the Jeffrey Manufacturing Company of Columbus, Ohio, purchased his business and patents, with substantial profit to himself and his associates.

While a student at Tri State College, Jo courted the youngest daughter of Daniel J. Shank, Mildred Mary, who was born February 12, 1891. They were married on November 24, 1913, and have two children, Eleanore Elizabeth, who married Wayne E. Aldrich and has one daughter, Kari Jo; and Daniel Shank Bakstad, who married

Shirley Olsen, whom he met while attending Naval Aviation Cadet School at Cedar Rapids, during the 2nd World War. They have four children: Daniel Eric, Kristin Kay, Craig Stephen, and Lisa Karen.

Following the depression of 1929-1933, Daniel Shank, who operated his lumber business in Angola, at the age of 85, prevailed on Jo to take over the business which Jo purchased along with the property in June, 1934. It has been continued in operation as "Daniel Shank Lumber Company, Inc.," in which business Jo's immediate family are the sole owners.

The business suffered heavy losses from a disastrous fire which destroyed several buildings and substantial merchandise in 1949, but new buildings and increased stock of merchandise were replaced the same year to greatly enhance their facilities and sales.

After discharge from the Navy in 1945, Jo's son Daniel attended Tri-State College, majoring in Business Administration, graduating with a BS degree, and later attended the Purdue University Short Course in Lumber and Building materials, since when he has joined in his father's business in the capacity of Secretary and General Manager.

Jo has led an active life in business as well as in Civic interests. He became a citizen of the U. S. in 1916, and a staunch "Republican" as the result of thoughtful study of American history and tradition. He was a member of the "American Road Builders Association" during his activities in that field. Since entering the Lumber Business he has at various times been district chairman of the Indiana Lumber and Builders Association, and State Association Director.

While living in Chicago he was one of the organizers of the Village of Bannockburn, a suburb in which he owned his home, and was one of its trustees, and he was named among "Who's Who" in Chicago in 1931.

Since moving to Angola he has been active in the Chamber of Commerce and is one of its Past Presidents. For many years he was a member of the Lions Club, and its President in 1942-43. He has been a Chapter Member of the Masonic Lodge for 40 years past, and a member of the American Ordnance Association. He is also a past member of the Loyal Order of Moose, the "Screw-Balls" of America, and charter member and sec'y. of the "Past Presidents Club."

During World War I he was engaged for a time in experimental work in heating and ventilating of submarines and spent over 4 years at the army Ordnance Depot at Aberdeen, Md., Proving Grounds during World War II as chief of operations in the Rocket Research Division, earning a Government citation for "Valuable Service" performed in his work.

Also, during the Korean War, he was upon recall, engaged for brief periods in 1951 and 1952 as Industrial Engineer in the Army Ordnance Depot "Development and Proof Services," also at Aberdeen Proving Grounds.

He is not interested in sports and dislikes fishing and hunting, but enjoys an occasional game of golf, and skiing. He is an ardent reader and prefers business statistics, scientific developments, and biographies of people of distinction.

Jo has spent many years in travel throughout the United States and Canada in the interest of his past engineering business, and he, with his wife Mildred, has travelled extensively in the States for pleasure and recreation, with visits to European Countries and South America.

Jo at 65 is still active in his business and intends to hang on for many more years to come, with a few trips now and then to make life interesting.

### Biography of Fleming Bodley

Fleming Wilson Bodley was born June 7, 1869, in Salem Township. He was the sixth of seven children born to Levi Newton and Mary Jane Butler Bodley. His entire life has been spent in Steuben County, mostly in Salem Township, where he was a farmer until 1937.

Before he was of school age the family moved to a farm west of Angola near Silver Lake. About 1875 they moved back to Salem Township to a farm about one-half mile south of Butler's Corner on the former Underground Railroad.

During his boyhood he attended school at the old Butler School, one mile west of the Block Church, and Hickory Grove School, one and one-half miles west of Salem Center. As a young man he worked for John Parsell, Ben Hayward, and George Resler, farming, and building the Gillespie and Wood school houses.

On August 31, 1899, he was married to Edith Mae Hammond, daughter of Doctor and Mrs. A. K. Hammond. They made their home on a farm one mile west of Block Church, where they built

all the buildings and cleared some of the marshlands. They were both members of the Presbyterian (Block) Church, and took an active part in the social life of the community until Mrs. Bodley's death in 1911. From that time until 1936 his wife's mother, Mrs. N. J. Hammond, cared for the home and their only child, Helen Elizabeth, born July 5, 1903. After Mrs. Hammond's death he sold his farm and came to live with his daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stevens of Angola, where he still resides.

Flem has three grandchildren, Beverly Jane, March 10, 1927, now Mrs. Donn W. Laird, who lives in Duarte, California, Donna Gayle Stevens, February 5, 1929, teacher of Art and English in Modesto, California; Nancy Beth Stevens, March 6, 1938, Sophomore in Angola High School.

His great-grandchildren are:

Susan Beverly Laird, born August 23, 1951.

Martha Nancy Laird, born September 22, 1953.

### Biography of Isaac Dunning Bodley

Isaac Dunning Bodley was born June 19, 1871, near Silver Lake in Steuben County. He is the youngest son of Levi Newton Bodley and Mary Jane Butler Bodley. When he was very young the family moved to Salem township and located on land formerly owned by the grandfather, Jesse Butler.

He attended Hickory Grove and Butler schools in Salem township. When a young man he worked for a while in machine shops in Chicago, Illinois, and Three Rivers, Michigan. He also worked for an uncle, James Collier, in Bryan, Ohio.

Following this employment he returned home to take over management of the home farm. He married Mabel Frances Amerman, (Born July 18, 1878), native of Salem Township, on November 19, 1903. They lived on the same farm and made a home for his parents as long as they lived. They later owned farms in Scott township.

In 1947 they retired from farming and now live in Angola.

Their children—

I. Katy Gretchen, born September 30, 1904, married Merritt D. Boyer on March 13, 1937.

II. Martha Frances, born December 8, 1908, married Virgil McClish on January 19, 1928.

Their children—



1. Rebecca Jean, born August 23, 1928, married Richard Wisner on November 29, 1946. Their children—

Teresa Jean, born August 3, 1949

Christy D., born December 15, 1951

Gregory Lynn, born July 16, 1953

2. Marianne, born July 4, 1930, married Wallace Jenkins on June 16, 1949.

3. Sally Lee, born September 2, 1936.

4. James Allen, born December 12, 1946.

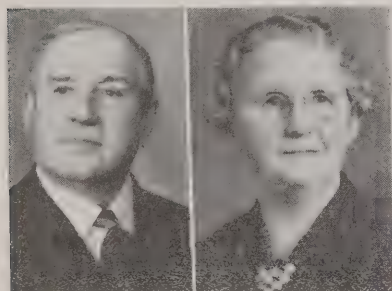
- III. William Milton, born October 24, 1911, married Phyllis Hughes on May 1, 1937.

Their children —

Connie Lee, born December 10, 1946.

### Biography of the Charles Lewis Borton Family

Mr. Charles Lewis Borton was born April 9, 1868, in Fulton County, Ohio. He was the oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. William Borton. His mother was, before her marriage, Regina Oliver.



Mrs. Charles Lewis Borton, was before her marriage, Nora Alberta Baker, born October 21, 1872, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William

R. Baker. (Mrs. William R. Baker was, before her marriage, Ann Janette Wheaton.)

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lewis Borton were united in marriage October 6, 1892, and bought a farm on what the natives call Sand Point Road. It is on the northeast side of Clear Lake, the farm land running to the lake front. In the first years of their agricultural activities, they specialized in growing and distilling peppermint into oil and, in late years, the quality of their melons commanded widespread favor, as did their peaches, berries, and vegetables. The Bortons are credited with being among the first farmers in Steuben County, Clear Lake Township, to foresee the possibilities in development of Clear Lake into a popular summer resort. This is attested to by the fact that they were among the first to plot and develop lake frontage into rental properties. They built five cottages,

which Mrs. Borton still maintains, as well as the old farm home.

The Bortons were also known for their beautiful flock of white Leghorn chickens. They had eggs at the time of the year when eggs commanded a good price, and fryers early for the resort trade. The Bortons supplied the east shore of Clear Lake with milk, vegetables, and fruit for many years. They always had a thousand head of cabbage for the neighborhood to buy for sauerkraut. A point of interest here, it was always planted the Fourth of July.

Mr. Borton served Clear Lake Township as school trustee for two years, and as assessor for one year. He prided himself upon the fact that he never missed voting at any election since reaching his majority.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lewis Borton observed their Golden Wedding Anniversary on October 6, 1942, with all of their family present.

Mr. Charles Lewis Borton passed away April 8, 1947, a day before his 79th birthday. He was survived by his wife, two daughters, two sons, and grandchildren.

The Charles Lewis Bortons had four children—Ruth, Allen, Dorothy, and Chester.

Ruth Trilby Borton was born June 11, 1896, in Fulton County, Ohio. She attended Sand School and Montgomery, Michigan, High School. She learned the millinery business in Mrs. Beck's milliner shop in Montpelier, Ohio, and later had a millinery shop of her own in Montgomery, Michigan. She was united in marriage to Glen C. Forester, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Forester, Nov. 3, 1917. They have made their home on the Borton Farm since 1921, which Mrs. Charles Lewis Borton still maintains. Ruth has kept the quality of the Borton melons on its high standard and they still command widespread favor. This union was blessed with two daughters, Betty Joyce and Dorothy Jean.

Betty Joyce Forester was born April 26th, 1926, in Clear Lake Township. She attended the Sand School and Fremont High School. She was united in marriage on December 19, 1942, to Richard Martin Oxenger. Richard entered the Armed Services May 14, 1945, and served in this country six months, and in Italy and Germany for eighteen months. This union was blessed with four daughters—

Carolyn Jean Oxenger, born May 18, 1944.

Lee Ann Oxenger, born May 26, 1947.

Martie Marie Oxenger, born May 25, 1952.

Judy Kay Oxenger, born April 20, 1954.

Their first years of married life were spent in Steuben County. They purchased a home in Hudson, Michigan, December 19, 1953.

Dorothy Jean Forester was born October 22, 1931, in Clear Lake Township. She was graduated from Fremont High School with the Class of 1951. She was united in marriage to Corporal Lauren Wayne Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Cox, of Paulding, Ohio, on July 4, 1951, in a beautiful candlelight ceremony at the Bormerl-Oaks Farm, summer home of Mr. and Mrs. George L. Merrill, uncle and aunt of the bride. Corporal Cox served nine months in service in Korea before their marriage, and eighteen months in this country after that. This union was blessed with a daughter, Debra Jean Cox, born September 19, 1953. The Coxes made their home in Hudson, Mich.

Allen Arthur Borton was born in Clear Lake township September 17, 1899. He finished Sand School and then was a graduate from Montgomery High School. He was united in marriage on June 24, 1920, to Veva L. Horton, in a beautiful home wedding in the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Nelson Horton, Montgomery, Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen A. Borton make their home in Hillsdale, Michigan. They operated a bakery and restaurant for many years, Mr. Borton having learned the bakery trade from his father's brother, Arthur William Borton of Bryan, Ohio. In late years, Allen Borton has been active in the oil business in the southwest.

This union was blessed with one son, Robert Lewis Borton, born April 25, 1923. Robert received his grade and high school education in Hillsdale, Michigan, and was a well known pianist in his high school days. He served in the United States Navy for forty-two months, ten of which were in the Asiatic theater of the war. In August of 1947, he was united in marriage to Irma June Schmidt of Cincinnati, Ohio. Irma is a Hillsdale College graduate. Robert received his Master's Degree in 1952, from the University of New Mexico at Albuquerque, New Mexico, in Geology and Petroleum Engineering, and is now employed in the State of

New Mexico as a State Geologist, making his home in Roswell, New Mexico.

Dorothy Leota Borton was born January 2, 1902, on the old Borton farm on Sand Point Road. She was graduated from the 8th grade at Sand Point School, Clear Lake, and from Fremont High School in the Class of 1920. She attended Hillsdale College one year and then Kalamazoo Summer School. Dorothy taught the first and second grades in Montgomery, Michigan, for two years, then attended Ypsilanti, Michigan, Normal School where she received her life certificate to teach school. She then taught in Adrian, Michigan, for three years. Dorothy was united in marriage to George Losee Merrill on March 29, 1927, in the home of the bridegroom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hayes Merrill, Adrian, Michigan. They make their home in Toledo, Ohio, where Mr. Merrill is in the Jewelry and Investment Business; and their summer home, which they bought in 1928 on Sand Point Road, is just across the road from Mrs. Merrill's parents' home, the Borton Farm. They joined their two names, Borton and Merrill, and named their summer home—Bormerl-Oaks Farm. They spend about six months of the year on this farm.

This union was blessed with one daughter, Mary Ann Merrill. She was born November 10, 1930.

Mary Ann received her A. B. degree from the University of Arizona in June of 1953, and is now working on her Master's Degree in English at the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida.

Chester Lewis Borton was born July 2, 1907, in Clear Lake Township and attended Sand Point grade school and was graduated from Montgomery High School, June, 1926. He has made his home with his parents. He bought the David Teeters Farm, on Route 1 on the Cyrus Kint Road, in June, 1950, and enjoys working this land. He spends much of his time helping to raise the good melons on the old Borton farm and assisting in the care of the Borton Cottages.

On January 2, 1949, Mrs. Charles Lewis Borton was united in marriage to Mr. Lloyd P. Mann. Mr. Mann is a first cousin of Mr. Charles Lewis Borton and a lifelong friend of Mrs. Borton.

Mr. and Mrs. Mann bought their present home to the south of the old Borton Farm in 1949. Mr. Lloyd P. Mann was 81 years of age on April 23, 1954. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mann are very active for their years and are members of the Clear Lake Baptist Church.



### Biography of Harold C. Bovee

Harold C. Bovee, the son of Byron and May (Collins) Bovee, was born December 4, 1910, at the Bovee farm home in Milford Township, where he still resides. He was one of four children, the others being: Ruth, Russell and Wava.



He bought the homestead from his father in 1939 and has never lived in any other house. His father died April 1, 1954.

Harold attended Stroh School for eleven years, finishing his Senior year at Salem Center, from which he was graduated with the class of 1928.

November 22, 1930, he was united in marriage to Retha M. Cook of near Wolcottville. They are the parents of four children, namely: Beverly, Nancy, Byron, and Norman.

Harold Bovee is associated with his brother Russell in a very successful business, known as the Stroh Implement Company. They have been partners since 1935 in the above mentioned. Previous to that time they were operators of a number of milk routes.

Harold, with his brother Russell, started their Implement Company in a small, one car garage building, which they rented for \$2.00 per month. Their present building is 90 x 100 feet and was completed in 1948. In addition to this building they have a large warehouse for storage purposes. They specialize in high-grade service to the surrounding communities.

### Biography of Russell E. Bovee

Russell E. Bovee, son of Byron and May (Collins) Bovee, was born October 19, 1903. Russell, his brother Harold, and sisters Ruth and Wava, with their parents, lived on the farm near Stroh, where his mother has lived her entire life. His father passed away April 1, 1954.



He attended school at Stroh, taking the 4th year of High School at South Milford, from which school he was graduated in 1922.

In 1925 Russell was married to Dorcas Bell and they have resided in Stroh since that time. Their only son, James Eugene Bovee, received his elementary

schooling in Stroh and was graduated from Salem High School. After being discharged from the Army of World War II, James entered Indiana University, receiving his B.S. degree in Business in 1950. He is now located in Los Angeles, California.

After finishing school, Russell, in partnership with his father, ran a milk route, which was then one of the first in the territory, collecting milk from farmers and delivering to a condensery, hauling milk in those days with wagon and team of horses. Later he expanded the milk route, dividing it into two routes, maintaining them with drivers and modern milk trucks through the years.

In 1935, Russell and his brother Harold formed a business association known as the Stroh Implement Company, selling tractors and farm machinery. With hard work and integrity, they built up the business and later purchased the hardware stock from Miller Brothers Hardware, expanding their business of selling and servicing farm equipment to include a Hardware and Appliance store, and erecting a new store building to accommodate a show room, parts department, repair and welding shop.

It is in this business that Russell, along with his brother and their staff of seven employees, are so busily engaged in serving the farmers and friends of this and the surrounding communities.

### Biography of Honorable Emmet A. Bratton

Judge Emmet A. Bratton, whose long service as a lawyer and judge make him a conspicuous figure in the history of Steuben County, was born in Williams County, Ohio, July 16, 1855, a son of Ira and Deborah Thomas Bratton. He grew up on his father's farm in Ohio, attended school in Angola, became a teacher and, through his own efforts, paid his way through Hillsdale College. He then returned to Angola, studied law in private offices, and later entered the University of Michigan, being graduated from the law school in March, 1881. After graduation at Ann Arbor, he entered into the practice of law at Angola as a partner of Stephen A. Powers. In 1884 he associated himself with Doak R. Best under the firm name of Best and Bratton, and in July, 1893,



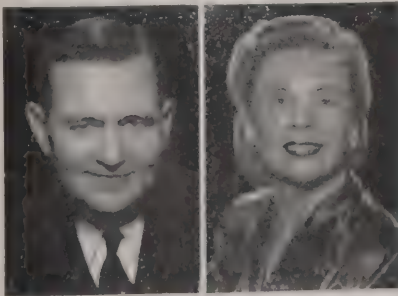
they were joined by Charles A. Yotter, constituting the firm of Best, Bratton, and Yotter. In 1884 Mr. Bratton served as town clerk and treasurer and in 1886 he was elected prosecuting attorney for the 35th Judicial Circuit composed of Steuben, DeKalb, and Noble Counties, and was re-elected in 1888. In 1904, while still a member of the firm of Best, Bratton, and Yotter, he was elected Circuit Judge for the district composed of Steuben and DeKalb Counties, in which honored position he served with great fidelity and ability for six years. In 1911 he resumed his law practice and, associating with Wm. E. Heckenlively, formed the firm of Bratton and Heckenlively. In 1920, after Mr. Heckenlively moved to Colorado, he was joined by Dudley W. Gleason in the firm of Bratton and Gleason. He continued the active practice of law in this firm until his death September 18, 1923.

On February 14, 1883, Mr. Bratton was united in marriage to Miss Della Rice, a native of Steuben County and daughter of a prominent physician, Dr. Cornelius D. Rice. They had three children: Mrs. Ben L. Averill, Mrs. Paul G. Preston, and Corneal R. Bratton. Mrs. Bratton died January 27, 1914. On August 23, 1917, Mr. Bratton married Mrs. Jennie M. Golden.

Mr. Bratton was a member of the Church of Christ in Angola. He was active in the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Masonic Lodge.

### Biography of Austin Daniel Brokaw

Austin Daniel Brokaw, the oldest of four sons, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Brokaw October 28, 1905.



He attended Angola Grade and High Schools and Tri-State College and later became associated in the theater business with his father, which business he is now managing with his brother.

On November 12, 1930, Austin D. Brokaw and Florence Chapman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Chapman of Hamilton, Indiana, were united

in marriage at the Methodist Parsonage at Auburn, Indiana, by the Rev. Wickersham.

Mr. and Mrs. Brokaw are the parents of two daughters, Shirley Anne, who is now Mrs. Phillip Hull, and at the present time teaching at the Angola Grade School; and Jane Vanette, who is a Junior in Angola High School.

Austin is a member of the Angola Rotary Club, Masonic Blue Lodge, F. & A. M., York Rite, Mizpah Shrine, and Moose Lodge.

Mr. and Mrs. Brokaw and their children are members of the First Congregational Church of Angola.

### Biography of Joseph A. Brokaw

Joseph A. Brokaw was born August 16, 1875, in the Brokaw home at 301 North Wayne Street, Angola, Indiana. His father, Austin H. Brokaw, and his mother, Martha Stephenson Brokaw, came to Angola in 1874 from Adrian, Michigan. His father was, for many years, a grocer in the building now owned by Ray D. Hosack.



Joe's childhood was the usual happy, normal one. As he grew older, he grew sturdy and strong, casting already on the wall his shadow that was to influence the lives of comrades and friends through the years. He loved all sports, especially baseball. He attended public schools and Tri-State College, playing on the various home baseball teams and later with the Fort Wayne League and at Hillsdale College.

Always ambitious, Joe, with his young men friends, clerked in Stiefel's Department Store for a time, then managed his own store until he secured his pressing and tailoring establishment. During the time when "Remember the Maine" was a slogan, Joe, as a drummer boy, marched away to a camp in Florida, awaiting his call. He was then placed in the 157th Regimental Band. Later, he managed Angola's first movie and the Croxton Opera House.

In 1902, he married Miss Nora Shank. To them were born Austin, John, and the twins Richard and Robert. Austin married, and is successfully carrying on his father's business, the management of the Brokaw Theater. John, Richard, and Robert are all married and living in Angola.

Mr. Brokaw was a member of the Associated



Theater Owners of the State of Indiana, a loyal member of the Masonic Lodge and of the Rotary Club. He was no office holder or seeker. He was not on the school board, on the rostrum, president of the commercial club, or anywhere else in the limelight. But he was "Johnny on the spot" when you needed a donation. It is doubtful if anyone ever asked Joe for a lift or a favor without getting it.

Joe Brokaw, known to everyone in Steuben County and to hundreds in the Tri-State Area, was a happy, kindly, and generous man, doing good all along the way. It may not have been known to all, for he did not advertise it, but Joe Brokaw was the refuge and hope and, in some cases, the source of the bare necessities of life for some folks temporarily (and not so temporarily at that, sometimes), in need. He was a kindly man who never asked anything of others except a chance to hoe his own row, and that he did. He was one of our best-loved citizens. Many a kid, now grown to adulthood, remembers how Joe looked the other way as he slipped around the ticket taker to see "The Perils of Pauline" and other necessary episodes in a kid's life. And many will remember when he spoke from the screen at the opening of the Brokaw Theater and said to the college students: "If you want to see the picture, but haven't received your check from home, just say 'Hiya Joe, I'll see you again' and walk on in."

Mr. Brokaw's death occurred in May of 1945.

### Biography of Bert Brown

Bert Brown was born in Orland, Indiana, January 28, 1869, the son of Orrin and Emily (Fuller) Brown. Bert's grandparents, the Emery Browns, came to Orland in 1836. At that time Orland was known as "Vermont Settlement." His father was six years old when he located there. Germ (his uncle) was a year or so older.



His mother's family (Fuller) located at a later date in Flint, Indiana, but moved from there to the house facing what is now Bert's present home in Orland. It is an old landmark and is still in good condition.

In 1905 Bert married Dorothy Rabenstein of Chicago. She passed on in 1908. They had no children.

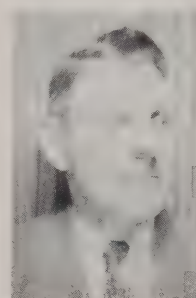
Bert Brown was a talented musician, being soloist with Pryor, Sousa, Liberatti, Cuss, Conway, Fanciulla of New York, Brooke, Imes, 2nd Regiment, Rosenbecker, Weldon, Bachman of Chicago, and Bellstedt of Cincinnati; played 1st Trumpet with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, of which Rosenbecker was conductor.

Mr. Brown made many Band records for the Victor and Columbia Talking Machine Companies, featuring the Pryor and Sousa Bands. He was President of the Dixie Music House of Chicago, Illinois, and is listed in "Who's Who" there and also in Florida. He is now retired and living in Miami, Florida.

Mr. Brown is an Alumni member, class 1885, of Orland High School.

### Biography of Arthur Butler

Arthur Butler, born in England in 1909, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Butler of Nottingham. Besides his parents, he has one sister, Mrs. Frank Fletcher, now of Port Elizabeth, South Africa.



He attended public and trade schools before entering into a five year apprenticeship. Having served the apprenticeship, he immediately proceeded to get the urge to go abroad. One month later found him aboard ship emigrating to the United States. His final destination was Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where Mrs. Fred Knight, an aunt, was living.

His first job after getting to Pittsburgh, was the construction of a new house for the Knights who had sparked the urge to come to the United States. Completion of this house opened many other jobs in and around the Pittsburgh area.

With Pittsburgh as his home and an introduction to new ways of life, many trips around various parts of the country were made. It was in 1933 that he first came to Angola, where some influential contacts were made.

In December of 1936 he was married to Thelma Smith, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Smith of Ray, Indiana. She was a graduate of the Fremont High School and International College of Fort Wayne and was employed as bookkeeper for the Steuben County Farm Bureau Cooperative of Angola. This seemed to be the beginning of a permanent location in Angola. They purchased land

one mile south of Angola where they erected a warehouse and a shop, and a house which is their home. They also own other properties in Angola. They have one daughter, Sylvia Joan Butler, born April 16, 1940, who is now in her first year of high school in Angola.

Mr. Butler has been following the building trade as a General Contractor, doing mostly commercial and industrial work, filling in as the opportunity occurred with residential work. The last five years have been devoted entirely to church buildings, mostly in the state of Ohio, and especially in the Toledo area. Jobs under construction at the present time (1954) are the Second Church of Christ Scientist in Toledo, an office building for the Northern Indiana Public Service Company at Angola, and a new school at Kendallville, Indiana.

The Butler Family are active members of the Church of Christ where Mr. Butler is a Deacon and Secretary of the Church Board. He is also very active in all Church work in the Tri State Area.

### Biography of J. W. Butler

Activities of the Butler family have been a distinct contribution to the life and affairs of Steuben County for over 114 years. Joseph Butler was a lawyer of long and prominent record, but, in the main, devoted his time to extensive agricultural interests in Jackson Township, where he owned a large farm now owned by his son. His father was Justus Butler, who was born in New York State, July 2, 1802, at Canandaigua, Ontario County. His mother, Anna (Clark) Butler, was born in Vermont on August 6, 1812.

On the old homestead farm in Jackson Township, Joseph Butler was born on July 24, 1846. He spent his early life on the farm and early became interested in politics. He was elected to the office of Clerk of Courts of Steuben County in 1874, and served in that capacity for four years. This official experience kindled in him an ambition to become a lawyer, and on leaving public office he entered the law offices of Woodhull & Croxton at Angola, and also took a course in the law department of the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington. In November, 1881, he formed a partnership for practice at Angola, being head of the firm of Butler, Walls & Cline. After the spring of 1882, the firm continued as Butler & Cline until July, 1884. From 1891 to 1895 Mr.

Butler was prosecuting attorney for Steuben and Dekalb Counties.

Through all those years Mr. Butler was one of the leading farmers in Jackson Township. He also served a term as trustee of Pleasant Township.

In 1881, Mr. Butler married Salena Weicht, daughter of Dr. Weicht of Angola. Two children were born to their marriage: Bessie Nola and Joseph William Justus. Bessie Nola, born March 28, 1882, died in 1934. She was the wife of Clarence Green and had three children: Laura Mary, Josephine, and Clara Elizabeth, who died in 1953.

Joseph W. J. Butler (Billie) was born August 13, 1885. He married Maggie White on August 28, 1913. To this union were born three sons: Joseph William, John White, and Maurice Gage. The former died on October 4, 1917. Maurice and his mother died in 1920.

In 1924 J. W. J. Butler married Myrtle Raney. He still lives on the original Butler homestead and has continued the development of the Lake Gage Resort, which his father started in 1905. Mrs. Joseph Butler died on September 1, 1910, and Mr. Butler passed away on July 2, 1924.

### Biography of Marvin B. Butler

Marvin B. Butler was born in Grandisle, Vermont, February 15, 1834. He was one of five children of Daniel and Mary Butler. His father and two brothers, Jesse and Loren, and their families, came from Vermont and settled in Salem Township, Steuben County, Indiana, (on the farm later owned by John B. Parsell), when he was four years old. He acquired his education in the Salem and Orland schools, and taught school for several years.



Mr. Butler enlisted at Salem Center in August, 1861, in Company A., 44th Infantry, and was assigned to Crittenden's command and promoted to First Lieutenant and took part in the battles of Fort Donelson, Perryville, Stone River, and many other skirmishes during the Buell Campaign. From exposure at Fort Donelson, his health failed and he was furloughed home, sick with typhoid fever, and remained until recovered. He returned to his regiment at Battle Creek, Tenn., and suffered a



relapse, later typhoid pneumonia, and was nursed back to health by his brother Henry at the Spence Hospital in Murfreesboro, Tenn., where he was honorably discharged from service May 2, 1863.

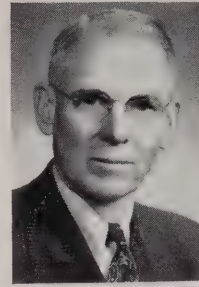
Mr. Butler served the people of Steuben County faithfully and well for eight years as Recorder, four years as Auditor, and a term in the legislature; and in all of his public life was courteous and conscientious in the discharge of his official duties.

He was united in marriage at Angola, Indiana, March 24, 1864, to Miss Harriet Fuller. To this union were born three sons, Albert, Benjamin, and Harry. Albert died in infancy, and Harry, January 3, 1899. His entire life, with the exception of a few years, was spent in Salem Township. His wife died at their home January 2, 1901. From early manhood, he was a member of the North Salem Presbyterian Church, and his life was a living example of the faith that he professed. In his death the son lost a loving, indulgent, father; the community a sturdy pioneer and exemplary citizen; and the church a strong and faithful pillar.

During the last four years of his life he compiled a book entitled "My Story of the Civil War and the Underground Railroad," which was published in 1914. During this time he was failing in health and as was his wish he was taken to the Soldiers' Home Hospital in Marion, Indiana, for treatment. It was there that he died June 17, 1914, aged over 80 years. He left to mourn his passing one sister, Mrs. Susan Bell, one son, Benjamin, three grandchildren, and a wide circle of friends. Funeral services were held at the M. E. Church in Salem, June 21, 1914, Rev. John Humphreys, of Angola, officiating. The burial took place in the Block Cemetery.

The above obituary was taken from the Angola Herald of July 1, 1914. At the time of this printing, Mr. Butler is represented by three living grandchildren, Carleton W. Butler of Roseville, near Detroit, Florence B. Jones of Salem, and Mary I. Janning of East St. Louis, Illinois. Also by 5 great and 10 great-great grandchildren.

on the Seymour S. Butler farm one mile west of Salem Center in Steuben County, Indiana. His early education was begun in the district school of Hickory Grove, followed by three years of high school work in Stroh, Indiana, and senior and two years of college at Tri-State College, Angola, Indiana. He received his A. B. degree at DePauw University in 1917. In the summer of 1919, following the first world war, he attended King's College, University of London, and in 1926 received his M.A. degree at Columbia University, New York City. 1908 marked the beginning of his teaching career in Steuben and LaGrange Counties.



On April 25, 1918, at Kendallville, Indiana, he was inducted into the service of the United States Army in the Medical Corps of the Thirty-Seventh Division, which served in the Baccarat Sector, Meuse-Argonne Offensive, took part in the Occupation of the Pauve Sector, Ypres-Lys Offensive, and the Occupation of Avocourt Sector. In February, 1919, he was detached from his division and was sent to England, where he attended the University of London. Having spent four months in England and Scotland, he was returned to France. On July 27, he arrived in the United States and was mustered out of the service on August 1, 1919.

After teaching in the English Department of Central High School at Fort Wayne, Indiana, for thirty-one years he retired June 11, 1954.

In June, 1926, he was united in marriage to Opal Leora Myers, daughter of Horace Irvin and Alice (McDonald) Myers, at Wolcottville, Indiana, and took up residence at 1620 Crescent Avenue, Fort Wayne, Indiana. They have two children, Richard Keith, now serving as a Sergeant in the United States Army in Germany, and Janet Lucile, a graduate of North Side High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Butler and family are active members of the First Baptist Church of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

### Biography of Roelif Kay Butler

Roelif Kay Butler, second son of Roelif E. and Dora (Spears) Butler was born November 15, 1888,

### Biography of S. Ora Butler

S. Ora Butler, son of Seymour S. and Albina Conger Butler, was born in Salem Township, Sep-

tember 9, 1871. He attended school in the small frame school house a few rods west of the village of Salem Center. His early life was spent on the farm where he was born, one mile west of Salem Center.



He has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for more than fifty years, has been a member of the Farm Bureau ever since its organization in the county, having served four years as its president.

He was one of the early promoters and one of the incorporators of Rural Electrification and has served sixteen years as director of the organization. He has always found it a source of pleasure to work with men in any promotional organization. Like many others he was possessed with a dissatisfied nature and tried many different kinds of work, namely: Shop work and a few years as a brakeman on the Wabash Railroad. He crossed the Mississippi River eight times before he was twenty-five years old.

In 1910 he answered the call and came back to the land and was united in marriage with Lou Stoddard, of Litchfield, Michigan. She died in 1944. He planted his first apple trees in 1912 and continued planting for several years thereafter; a span of 42 years of continuous living and working among the richness and beauty of trees, each year bringing forth new and interesting developments.



**FOUR BUTLER BROTHERS**

Fred H., Ora, Roelif E., Loren W.

Mr. Butler is widely known as the founder of the "Butler Orchards"—as long as he is in love with his work and as long as our good Lord blesses him with health and he can help someone to be

happy, he would rather go as fast as he can and do things worthwhile. After many, many "hills ahead" he has really and surely found himself where he could consider the joy of his work as part of the profits.

"The hills ahead look hard and steep and high,  
And often we behold them with a sigh  
But as we near them, level grows the road;  
We find on every slope, with every load,  
The climb is not so steep the top so far . . .  
The hills ahead look harder than they are."

Included in this biography of Mr. Butler should be this excerpt from his article, "A Tree Grows in Indiana," which Mr. Butler wrote and which is as follows: "He lived his life and never knew the things that he could do—how true that is of tens of thousands of human beings. So many go to their graves never knowing what great talents and abilities they had, which went undiscovered, unknown. We sometimes amaze ourselves in finding out our real ability and what we really can do when we try. Show me the man or woman who is ambitious, continuously trying, they are the ones who discover their true selves and hidden abilities therein concealed."

"The man who really loves trees and painstakingly plans his blocks of orchard trees, will do so with no thought of financial gain. He who loves his work keeps youthful with something important to live for."

There is an unanswered question which has come down through the ages: "What does it profit a man though he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Like the tree that stands upright and unshaken by the storms and tempests, so stands the great character firmly rooted and unmoved in the face of adversity or lavish prosperity.

### Biography of Don Franklin Cameron, M.D.

Don Franklin Cameron was born on April 10, 1889, in Hamilton, Indiana, the son of John Franklin Cameron, M.D., and Mary (Haughey) Cam-

eron. He was graduated from the Hamilton High School in 1903, Tri-State College in 1905, Indiana University in 1907, University of Chicago in 1909, receiving his A.M.





there, and Johns Hopkins University receiving his M.D. there in 1913. He was a Fellow in Surgery for three years at the University of Minnesota.

He married Emily Landon, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. D. M. Landon of Quincy, Ill., in 1917, and, before her death in 1921, four children were born to them: Mary Helen Cameron M.D.; twin daughters, Catherine (Cameron) Wheeler and Janet (Cameron) Solomon; and Donald Franklin Cameron M.D.

In 1923 Don married Carrie Cline, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Cline. He has one brother, Angus L. Cameron M.D., who resides in Minot, North Dakota.

He is a past president of the Fort Wayne Medical Society and the Tri-State Medical Association. He was also a delegate for fifteen years from Indiana to the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association. Among other positions he has held was the chairmanship of the Surgical Section of the Indiana State Medical Association, and Potentate of the Mizpah Temple of A.A.O.N.M.S. in Fort Wayne in 1951. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and the International College of Surgeons.

Don has the distinction of being the Founder and Surgeon of the Cameron Hospitals Inc., of Angola, Ind., and Bryan, Ohio, since 1927; and surgeon in Fort Wayne since 1920.

The story is told, and verified by the participants, that Don and Harvey Morley were about to tee off for the first hole of golf, when Harvey missed on his first five swings. Don went into gales of laughter and was so overcome with mirth that he himself missed on the first five tries.

### Biography of Honorable Clyde C. Carlin

There are a few people in every community who launch out and, by their own courage, effort, and ability, attain a greater measure of success, fame, and prominence than others. One of these



was the Honorable Clyde C. Carlin, Judge of the Steuben Circuit Court, who was born, lived his entire life, and died, in Angola, Indiana, and during his entire life made a great contribution to the community in which he lived, first as a prominent lawyer and public speaker, and later as an eminent jurist on the bench.

Judge Carlin was descended from a family who believed in higher education, and who came westward from one of the eastern colonies—first to Wayne County, Ohio, and later, in 1840, Robert Carlin, grandfather of the Judge, with his wife and family of thirteen children, settled in the woods of Richland Township, Steuben County, Indiana. One of these thirteen children, Robert V. Carlin, father of Judge Carlin, was born in Wayne County, Ohio, February 26, 1834, and was privileged to attend college at Mount Union College, Alliance, Ohio, then later Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan, being graduated from the latter college in 1866. He held the position of principal of Angola High School for four years, during which time he was married to Maria Kinney in 1868. Later he held public office, first as Recorder of Steuben County, and later as Superintendent of Schools for Steuben County, which latter position he continued to hold for fourteen years with honor and distinction.

Thus, in a home of educated people, and with the heritage of the pioneer, Judge Clyde C. Carlin was born July 28, 1870, and following close in the footsteps of his father, was graduated from Angola High School, and Tri-State College in 1888, and, in 1892, with the Liberal Arts degree at Hillsdale College. Upon his graduation, he took up journalism and became associated with E. O. Rose as a publisher in founding a newspaper called the Angola Magnet. After one year, he decided to become a lawyer and began the study of law in the office of the Honorable William M. Brown, then a prominent lawyer of Angola, Indiana. Forming a partnership with Mr. Brown in 1898, for more than thirty years he diligently pursued the practice of law and became well-known throughout north-eastern Indiana as a bulwark of law.

On October 1, 1911, he was married to Gertrude Hauver, daughter of Henry Hauver, former sheriff of Steuben County, and throughout their entire married life until her death on April 28, 1943, his first concern was for her happiness and welfare. He demonstrated this devotion to her by his efforts in making their home beautiful, surrounded by gardens of flowers which she loved so dearly.

In 1927, Judge Carlin was first appointed, then elected, Judge of the 75th Judicial Circuit comprising LaGrange and Steuben Counties, and for twenty-one years served in that capacity on the bench. He soon won for himself popularity and fame as an eminent jurist and for his fair decisions. While

serving as Judge he found some time to devote to public speaking and writing, and became in great demand as an after dinner speaker. Among his best known lectures put to printed form are "Indiana" and "Sunrise,"—(the Easter oration), the latter having been dedicated to his beloved wife, Gertrude. So, by his kindly manner, generous regard, sincere convictions, fair decisions, and oratorical delivery, he became known far and wide as a leader in public affairs and the thought of the community in which he lived, winning a host of friends. Probably the most commendable service attributed to the life of Judge Carlin was the fact that for fifty years he faithfully taught a Sunday School class in his beloved Church of Christ at Angola.

Not only was Judge Carlin greatly respected by all, but he was loved as well. His attitude of comradeship, coupled with his understanding of human nature, and his tolerance thereof, endeared him to all of his friends and associates. He was never too busy to "listen" to each individual problem. Probably as one of those who made the greatest contribution to the immediate community in which he lived, and whose fame as a lawyer, public speaker, and judge, spread far and wide, the name of Honorable Clyde C. Carlin stands boldly at the head of the list of great men of Steuben County who are successful.

Judge Carlin died on October 11, 1948, and was interred at Circle Hill Cemetery beside the grave of his wife Gertrude.

Written by his friend Harvey E. Shoup, Angola, Indiana.

Note: The Easter Oration may be found elsewhere in this book.

### Biography of Roxie E. Allman Charles

Roxie Ellen Allman, second daughter of John B. and Evalyn Barron Allman, was born in Richland Township, Steuben County, Indiana, February 24, 1889. She attended the Morgan School, District No. 1 of that township, and the Bible school of the Church of Christ at the village of Metz. In 1900 she became a member of that church and was ever after most deeply interested in all kinds of Christian service. At the age of seventeen she entered Tri-State College at Angola, and completed its secretarial course in June 1907; after which she served for four years as Deputy Clerk of the Steuben Circuit Court. In the year

1912 she again enrolled at Tri-State College for further education, and then completed her literary studies at Hiram College (near Cleveland, Ohio) in 1914.

On May 27, 1915, Roxie Allman was married to Thurman P. Charles of Republic, Ohio, a graduate of Tri-State College, and they went to live in Hamilton County, Indiana, where he had been for five years a teacher and supervisor of public schools. From that time her life was linked inseparably with that of her husband in the life of the various school communities in which he served, viz.: Jackson Township, Hamilton County; Fulton County, Ohio; Wells County, Indiana; and in the Metz and Orland communities of Steuben County. Always she gave first place in all her activities outside the home to work of the church, maintaining responsibility for missionary education, and serving for more than thirty years as an adult Bible School teacher. Also, she served effectively as an officer in Parent-Teacher organizations, in Study Clubs, in the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and the Steuben County Tuberculosis Association.

To Thurman P. and Roxie Allman Charles were born three children: Flora Evelyn (1916); John Burdette (1918); and Searle Franklin (1923).

Flora Evelyn Charles, a graduate of Ball State College at Muncie, Indiana, taught in primary school grades in Ohio and Indiana for ten years prior to her marriage to LaGrande R. Hedglin, a Steuben County boy who served five years in World War II, and then returned to his chosen occupation of farming. They have three children: Charles LaGrande (1946); Roxana Sue (1948); and Richard Thurman (1951).

John Burdette Charles studied at Butler University, Indianapolis, for five years, receiving his A. B. and A. M. degrees from that school. During those years he served as a student pastor to rural churches in Johnson County. In 1945, John Burdette received his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. He has since served in churches at Youngstown, Ohio; Niagara Falls, New York; Pontiac, Illinois; and is presently (1954) serving a large church in Waltham, Mass. He married in 1945, Dorothy Gantz of Brownsburg, Indiana, a graduate of Butler University, and they have one son, John Burdette, Jr. (1948).

Searle Franklin Charles served two years in the U. S. Army of World War II; he received his



A. B. degree from Butler University; his A. M. degree from the University of Wisconsin; and his Ph. D. from the University of Illinois in June 1953. He is now (1954) engaged in the teaching of History at Fairmont State College, West Virginia. He was married in June, 1944, to Barbara Yount of Indianapolis, a graduate of Butler University. They have three children, Donald Franklin (1949), Lyn Ellen (1951), and Judith Barbara (1954).

### Biography of Thurman P. Charles

Thurman P. Charles was born at Republic, Seneca County, Ohio, November 1, 1886, the son of Xenophon F. and Flora Porter Charles. He had two sisters, Myra G. (Mrs. Charles Hassenplug), and Mabel T. Charles. His mother was a public school teacher prior to her marriage; and his father was a registered pharmacist who for sixty-seven years operated a drug and grocery store in the town of Republic, near Tiffin, Ohio. Both parents were intelligent, industrious, citizens, who took a keen interest in all political and civic affairs. The father, in addition to the management of his store, served on the Board of Education, also as Postmaster, and was at one time Mayor of the town. The mother was active in many community organizations, church, lodges, and literary circles.

Thurman P. Charles attended the schools of Republic, and at the age of twelve years he began clerking mornings, evenings, and on Saturdays in his father's general store. This he continued through his years in the high school. In March, 1904, prior to his graduation, he took a teachers examination and obtained a license to teach. He began teaching immediately the spring term in a one-room school about three miles from town, walking the distance each day. In the evenings he made up all required work for the completion of his high school course, and was graduated with his class in June, 1904. He continued to teach this country school for the next two years, and then was elected Superintendent of the village school at Republic. After serving in this capacity he resigned to take further training in his chosen profession.

His parents, having studied under the instruction of Prof. L. M. Sniff in the early days of the Republic Academy, advised their son to study at his Tri-State Normal School at Angola, Indiana. He entered this institution in the summer of

1907, and was graduated with an A. B. degree in June, 1910. Previously he had taken summer courses of study at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. During his years at Tri-State he participated in athletics, and in the activities of the Philo Literary Society, becoming one of its most active presidents. He also promoted the Parliamentary Law Club of the College, and was a member of the Angola Christian Church.

After graduation from Tri-State College, T. P. Charles became Principal of the Centralized Public School at Atlanta, Hamilton County, Indiana. He served in that capacity for three years and then became supervisor of all the schools of Jackson Township which included the schools at Atlanta and Arcadia, and twelve one-room schools. While doing this work he succeeded in establishing the first Vocational Agriculture School in the state of Indiana, under the Smith-Hughes Act. Also various agriculture and home economics clubs were established in the township, with the result that interest and enrollment in the township high schools was greatly increased.

As advanced preparation for his profession, Mr. Charles studied for three summers at Columbia University Teachers College, in New York City. In the meantime he accepted (1916) the position of Principal of a new consolidated school at Metz (the York-Richland), and served there for four years. In 1920 he became Superintendent of the public school at Fayette, Ohio, and continued in Fulton County for three years, after which he returned to Steuben County as Principal of the Millgrove Township schools at Orland. After a successful term of five years, Mr. Charles then became Principal (1928) of the Township Rural Consolidated School at Chester Center, Indiana (Wells County), for a period of three years, and then served as Principal of the neighboring school at Petroleum for two years, before returning to Orland to resume the Principalship of that school.

During his second term of service at Orland (1933-1939) Mr. Charles succeeded in obtaining a P. W. A. grant to Millgrove Township for the building of a much needed gymnasium and farm shop, which the township corporation, unaided, could not finance. This building was completed in 1938-39, and added greatly to the efficiency of the school plant.

About the year 1938 Mr. Charles became interested also in Rural Electrification for Steuben County, and assisted during summer months in

the preparation of the application for an REA loan by securing memberships and easements. He served as a director and as treasurer of the Steuben County Rural Electric Membership Corporation for the year 1938-39, and then in August 1939, when offered the position of bookkeeper for the organization, he accepted, and resigned as Principal of the Orland school, having to his credit at that time, thirty-five years of public school service. He is still serving (1954) as auditing bookkeeper for the Steuben County R.E.M.C.

At the present time Thurman P. Charles is a member and an elder of the First Christian Church of Angola, and a director of the Lake James Christian Assembly. Throughout the years he has been actively engaged in Christian service, teaching in and superintending Bible schools, and leading in other Christian youth activities. He has been especially interested in interdenominational church work, and has served repeatedly as president of the County Council of Christian Education, and of the Steuben County Council of Churches.

On May 27, 1915, Thurman P. Charles was married to Roxie E. Allman, daughter of John B. and Evalyn Barron Allman of Metz, Indiana, and to this union were born three children: Flora Evelyn, John Burdette, and Searle Franklin.

### Biography of Louis Chiricotti

Louis Chiricotti, son of Gioacchino and Anna Notazio Chiricotti, was born in Rome, Italy, February 15, 1902.



At the age of 17, after a sojourn in France, England, and Canada, he located, in 1920, in Chicago, Illinois, where he was united in marriage with Ann Pusatera of that city. To

them were born three children, Louis Joseph, Jr., Philip Guy, and John Henry.

Mr. Chiricotti located in Angola February 1, 1950, and purchased the furniture and fixtures of the Hotel Hendry, which he still operates.

Mr. and Mrs. Chiricotti purchased and reside in a fine home at 709 W. Maumee Street, Angola, Indiana.

### Biography of Honorable Cyrus Cline

Cyrus Cline was born in Richland County, Ohio, on July 12, 1856, the son of Michael and Barbara (Orewiler) Cline. When he was one year old the



family moved to Steuben County and settled on the farm five miles northeast of Angola. In 1873, when Cyrus was 17 years old, they left the farm and moved to Angola. His father died the following year on February 28, at the age of forty-nine. His mother lived until 1918, at which time she passed away on August 5, at the age of

eighty-eight.

Cyrus's early education took place in Steuben County, his high school training being received in Angola. He taught grade school for a few years and then, in 1873, he entered Hillsdale College in Michigan. Three years later, in 1876, he received his Bachelor of Science degree, and after two more years of study he received his Master of Arts degree in 1878. From 1877 to 1883 Mr. Cline was the county superintendent of schools. He studied law and in 1884 was admitted to the bar. From this time until his health failed he had a general law practice in Angola.

Cyrus Cline was one of Steuben County's best known and best loved citizens. He had been honored with the highest position in the gift of the people of this, the Twelfth Congressional district, being elected as their representative in the lower house of the national congress four successive times. As a member of the House he was honored, and brought distinction to his district by being appointed as a member of the Foreign Relations committee, soon becoming the ranking member, a position he filled with marked ability.

Mr. Cline was closely identified with the business life of Angola. For seven years he was president of the First National Bank and a director of both that and the First State Bank of Pleasant Lake at the time of his death. He helped to organize both institutions.

On October 6, 1880, he married Jennie Gibson, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Bushrod Gibson of Vermont. To this union was born one daughter, Carrie, the wife of Dr. Don F. Cameron of this city.

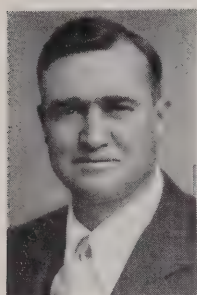
Mr. Cline belonged to the Scottish Rite Lodge of the Masons and held the thirty-second degree. In 1906 he was the illustrious grand master of the



Grand Council. Both he and his wife were active in the affairs of the Congregational Church. He passed away on October 5, 1923, after a lingering illness lasting five years. Mr. Cline was sixty-seven years of age at the time of his death. His passing was keenly felt by those who had grown to love him and to all who had been intimately associated with him.

### Biography of Don H. Cole

Don H. Cole, the son of William and Alberta Harman Cole, pioneers of Steuben County, was born in Scott Township, April 28, 1889.



His boyhood was spent on the farm, with his parents and brothers Ora and Robert.

He was graduated from the Angola High School and from Tri-State College Teacher Training Classes. For five years he taught school in Ohio and Indiana.

He was married March 30, 1912, to Ethel Maugherman, daughter of Samuel and Alta Maugherman, of Steuben County. They made their home on a farm he had purchased in Scott Township. (Mrs. Cole still resides in Scott Twp., but across the road from her former home.) The first two years of their married life were spent on the farm while he was teaching at the Scott Center School. Later he gave up teaching as a profession to give his time to the farm and other positions in which he was called to serve.

To Don and Ethel were born two children—Alberta and Dale. Alberta is now Mrs. Robert Allion. The Allions have one son, Mark Cole Allion.

Dale married Dorothy Wilson of Montgomery, Michigan. They have two children, Don H., and Debra. They reside on the home place.

Don maintained an affectionate and harmonious relation to his family and won the respect and esteem of a large circle of acquaintances and friends who greatly valued his neighborliness and good will.

For eleven years he was Secretary of the Angola Co-operative Shipping Association in which he served with much ability and success.

For two terms, 1932-36, he served Steuben County as Sheriff, giving much satisfaction as a capable and loyal officer.

He was a member of the Angola Lions and enjoyed the weekly fellowship of the Club.

He was an active member of the Odd Fellow's Lodge and of the Farm Bureau. He so gained an acquaintance with men and affairs which tended to show all his friends the value of life and its responsibilities.

Don Cole died, at the age of 53 years, at the University Hospital, Ann Arbor, Michigan, on January 29, 1943.

He was a good citizen, capable and industrious in all his business affairs, and worthy of all the honor and trust his many friends afforded him.

### Biography of Albert J. Collins

Albert J. Collins was born in Defiance County, Ohio, on November 27, 1861, the son of Jesse L. and Rachel (Grow) Collins. He was the second



of thirteen children. The family moved to Williams County, Ohio, in 1864. He taught his first country school in Williams County in the winter of 1881-82. In March, 1885, he

went to Norton County, Kansas, and taught in a sod schoolhouse through the winter of 1885-86. That summer he returned to Williams County and taught school there through the winter of 1886-87. He entered Hillsdale College in 1887 and was graduated in 1892 with a Ph. B. degree, and received an honorary degree, Ph. M., in 1895.

On November 7, 1891, Albert married Eva Jane Cleveland at Orland, Indiana. Eva Jane was born in Branch County, Michigan, on May 27, 1870, the daughter of Albertus Bonny and Rebecca Jane (George) Cleveland. She was the second of three children. In 1884 they moved to Orland, Steuben County, Indiana, where she lived until she was married to Albert. She passed away May 6, 1954.

Albert had charge of the following schools on the dates listed: Orland Schools, 1893-1901, 1913-1919; Hamilton Schools 1901-1907; White Pigeon, Michigan, 1907-1912. He was also Clerk of the Steuben Circuit Court 1920-1924 and Trustee of Millgrove Township 1927-1935. He was many years President of the Joyce Public Library Association, of Green Lawn Cemetery Society, Trustee of the

Congregational Church, Sunday School teacher, and Millgrove Township Director of the Steuben County Farmer's Mutual Insurance Companies. He now resides on his farm in Millgrove Township where he is associated with his son, Albertus, in the beef cattle and dairy cattle business.

Albert and Eva had seven children, four girls and three boys. One girl died in infancy. Those living are as follows: Albert Russell, rural mail carrier out of Hudson, Indiana; Lois Geneva Carlisle, retired school teacher, Kalamazoo, Michigan; Floiad Genevieve, school teacher, Sturgis, Michigan; Cleveland C., employee of Kraft Candy Company, Kendallville, Indiana; Rachel Rebecca Bair, supply teacher, Auburn, Indiana; Albertus Bonny, farmer in Millgrove Township, Steuben County, Indiana. In addition they have eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

### Biography of William Galen Croxton

The Croxton family was first represented in Steuben County, Indiana, by William Galen Croxton when he located in Angola at the age of 25 years, and became a law partner of Judge J. A. Woodhull in 1859.

Mr. Croxton was the third child in a family of nine children and was born at Monroeville, Jefferson County, Ohio, March 1, 1834. He died in Angola on November 20, 1903. His father was the Hon. Abram Croxton, a Virginian by birth, and at one time a member of the legislature of the State of Ohio, and a successful and prominent business man. His mother was Isabelle Russell. When she was fourteen years old her parents moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio; then a wilderness.

Mr. Croxton was fourteen years of age when he met with an accident which left him crippled for life and which probably influenced his future vocation. His father was a contractor for the construction of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad, and young Mr. Croxton was engaged in hauling stone with which to build culverts for the road. The team of horses which he was driving ran away throwing him from the wagon. His arm was crushed between a tree and a wheel of the wagon, rendering amputation necessary at the shoulder. He also sustained injuries to his hip which resulted in a shortening of one of his limbs. With this accident came the realization that his future in life depended upon an occupation not

involving physical activity. Accordingly he acquired a liberal education, attending Wellsville, Ohio, Academy, and Jefferson College at Cannonsburgh, Pa. He then took up the study of law in the office of Col. Seth Wadsworth in Ohio. After completion of his education and admission to the bar he located in Angola. He was associated in the practice of law variously with Judge J. A. Woodhull and with Judge Stephen A. Powers, and at the time of his death, with F. M. Powers.

Mr. Croxton was connected with many local business enterprises including the pioneer banking firm of Kinney and Co., and was one of the organizers and the first president of the Steuben County State Bank; now the First National Bank of Angola.

On March 4, 1863, he was married to Sarah Curdice (Carter) and to this union three sons were born. Mrs. Croxton died March 4, 1880, shortly after her return from Jacksonville, Florida, where she had gone to regain her health. Mr. Croxton was remarried to Mary Rosenberry in 1899, and she survived him.

Mr. Croxton was loved in this community; he hated hypocrisy and scorned shame, and was at all times modest and unassuming. He was generous and charitable and a great lover of children, who returned his deep love for them. With his passing the poor and unfortunate lost a true friend and helper, and a friend and associate described him thus in verse:

"But good to helpless folks and weak,  
A brave and manly heart  
A cyclone couldn't phase  
But any child could rend apart."

Mark, the eldest son of Mr. Croxton and his wife Sarah, died at an early age. The second, Paul, who succeeded as president of the Steuben County State Bank, died on April 9, 1905. On June 4, 1891, Paul Croxton was married to Miss Delle Bagle of Jackson, Michigan, and to them three children were born, Caryl, Galen, and Sarah.

The third and youngest son, John A., better known in the community as "Jack," was killed in an automobile accident on August 29, 1941. He was married to Miss Jennie Anderson of Angola, Indiana, on June 27, 1900. To them were born five children: Mark E., William Paul, Jack A., Jr., Marion C., and Emily Ruth.

The Croxton family continues to be represented



in Angola by Mrs. J. A. Croxton, the widow of Jack, Sr., and her son, Jack, Jr., who after service in World War II returned to Angola with his wife and two children, and is engaged in business there at the present time.

### Biography of Robert Denman, M.D.

For nearly half a century the populace of Helmer, Indiana, and surrounding community has been privileged to have the same faithful family



country doctor. It was in 1905 that Dr. and Mrs. Robert Denman came to Helmer to make their home and begin the practice of medicine. Mrs. Denman passed away

in 1945 and the doctor has continued his medical service.

Robert Denman M. D. was born on a farm in Adams County, Indiana, in 1873. His parents were John and Eliza J. (Daily) Denman. Mahlon Denman, the great-great-grandfather, was a mess boy in the Revolutionary War and the grandmother was a bond maid in the home of George Washington. In 1876 the Denman family moved to Willshire, Ohio, where the father operated a buggy factory and repair shop.

In the school of Willshire, Ohio, Robert Denman received his elementary and high school education. While attending Ohio Normal University at Ada, Ohio, he met Bertha Copeland, who was also pursuing literary and scientific courses.

Bertha Copeland was born in 1874 in Mercer County, Ohio, the daughter of William and Susan Flemming Copeland. She received twelve years of schooling in Neptune, Ohio, Schools and taught in her native county for three years. She was also principal of the Genoa, Illinois, high school for one year.

In 1898 Robert Denman and Bertha Copeland were married and entered the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, Mrs. Denman as a student of music and art and Mr. Denman as a pre-medical student. For five years Mr. Denman taught in the Van Wert County Schools and was

principal of the Mercer, Ohio, high school for three years.

Mr. Denman went into the offices of the Home Correspondence School in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1901, where he did part time work and matriculated in the Medical College of Indiana which was the Medical Department of Purdue University. He received his degree from Purdue University in 1905 and came to Helmer to begin his medical career.

For fifty years Dr. Denman has been a faithful, understanding physician. Over a radius of many miles he has traveled with horse and buggy, sleigh, wagon, and bob sled until the advent of the automobile made his work more pleasant and convenient. During his years of service he has owned six horses and twenty automobiles. No day or night was too cold or stormy to keep Dr. Denman from making his routine calls and administering to his patients. Over the period of years he has delivered more than two thousand babies. His keen interest is not only manifest in his profession but in community activities. His friendly understanding advice has helped many families in their hours of sorrow.

Mrs. Denman was a faithful companion and an untiring partner in her husband's active vocation. She was not only a proficient homemaker and mother but efficiently kept the doctor's books, and managed his professional routine. Her artistic abilities were revealed throughout her home and her musical talents were shared in her church and community. A woman of sterling qualities and character, Mrs. Denman's life was undaunted by the trivial affairs of every day.

Dr. and Mrs. Denman are the parents of two children, Dr. Dean C. Denman, a heart specialist in Whittier, California; and Winifred, who married Dr. Stuart McLain associated with the Atomic Energy Commission. The McLains have two sons.

Dr. Robert Denman holds an honorary life membership in both the Steuben and Indiana State Medical Associations for fifty years of Medical service. He is a member of the Northern Indiana Academy of Medicine of which he was president for one year, and is a Fellow of the American Medical Association.

Editor's Note: Since the writing of this biography, Dr. Denman has passed away. He died from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Death occurred on Sunday, March 27, 1955. He was 81 years of age.

### Biography of Montie E. Dewire

The family of Monterville Dewire came from Allen County, Kansas, in 1882, to Edon, Ohio, and in 1886 moved to a farm in Richland Township, Steuben County, Ind.

Montie E. Dewire was born on December 4, 1891, on this farm, which is now owned and occupied by his son Van. He was the only child of Willard C. and Myrta (Robinett) Dewire. Willard Dewire was born in Allen County, Kansas, the son of Monterville Dewire. Myrta Dewire was the daughter of Thomas Robinett, a pioneer farmer of Richland Township.

When Montie was four years old his parents purchased a farm in the southeast part of Richland Township, and here he spent his entire life. He received his elementary school education in the nearby Bethel school, and attended High School at Edon, Ohio, where he was graduated in 1909. He also attended Wisconsin and Purdue Universities for short term winter courses in agriculture.

On December 20, 1912, he married Ethel Ingram, daughter of Sherman and Laura (Gonser) Ingram of Edon, Ohio. His parents moved to Edon, Ohio, and he took over the management of the farming operations, including feeding and shipping of livestock, which his father had established, and they worked in partnership as W. C. Dewire and Son until his father's death in 1938. They were associated with the Edon Hoop and Lumber Company, and were directors of the Farmer's National Bank of Edon. After his father's death, his son Van became his partner and they worked as M. E. Dewire and Son.

Montie was fond of sports and played football both in High School and, later, on a town team. In 1915 he took up trapshooting and achieved an enviable national reputation as one of the best. In 1915 he tied for the National Championship at the Grand American Handicap Shoot in Chicago, and in 1932 he won the most coveted Championship of North America at Vandalia, Ohio. Through the years he won the Indiana State Championship eight different times.

He was very fond of hunting and took advantage of every opportunity to indulge in this sport, choice of which was a week or two each October hunting Ruffed Grouse in Michigan.

Montie was a member of the Christian Church and the Masonic Lodge in Edon, Ohio.

Montie passed away on September 3, 1948, and is survived by his wife, Ethel, and their six children. Myra married Arthur J. Fear and they live in Norwalk, California, with two children; Marie married Carleton Rockey, they have two children and live in Wauseon, Ohio; Van married Mildred Scott, they live on the homestead in Richland Township, and they have four children; Mildred married Waldo Johnson, they have four children and live in Williams County, Ohio; Marian married Howard Nesbitt, and they live in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with their two children; Connie married Sue Gearhart, he is in Military service at Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas. Upon discharge, he will return to the farm in Richland Township, now occupied by his mother, and go into partnership with his brother, Van. These are two separate farms, the one near Alvarado where Van resides, and where Monterville Dewire settled with his family in 1886; the other two miles south, where Connie will live on his return.

### Biography of Ezra L. Dodge

Ezra Leicester Dodge was born in the year of 1863, on the Henry B. Dodge farm south of Pleasant Lake, Indiana.

After graduation from the Pleasant Lake High School and from the first graduating class of Tri-State College, he taught in the Pleasant Lake School and the Salem School. He always believed in making education possible for every child, so when he became Trustee and was confronted with the difficult problem of children in the County covering distances to and from school, he inaugurated, upon completion of Crooked Lake School, the first School Bus transportation.

He served as Deputy County Clerk under Thos. R. Marshall and in 1904 was elected to that office, where he served until 1908. His wife Elizabeth Cline Dodge served as his Deputy.

Always interested in helping the cause of the Republican Party, he was chosen Steuben County chairman of the Party.

He owned and operated the Angola Steam Laundry for years. He served on the Angola School Board and was an early member of the Angola Rotary Club. He was always proud that he had been privileged to work long hours on the Building Committee of the Angola Christian Church, helping make possible the fulfillment of a need for



a fine building and Church large enough to accommodate the many Tri-State College and County activities of a cultural nature.

He served as Secretary of the Angola Bank Trust Company for many years, where he was known for his thoughtful integrity. He thought time and money spent for Civic uplift a duty each citizen should assume. He had the joy of receiving 50 year membership pins, given by his Church and Masonic Orders, and he and Mrs. Dodge, who preceded him in death by four years, had celebrated 57 wedding anniversaries. Their only child, Barbara Dodge Crankshaw, (Mrs. James F. Crankshaw) survives.

### Biography of Henry B. Dodge

Henry B. Dodge was born October 3, 1832, in the Township of Willson, Niagara County, New York. In 1836 his parents moved to Ruggles, now Ashland County, Ohio.



In 1843, when he was eleven years old, his father died, leaving his mother and five sisters. In 1853 his mother, two sisters, and he moved to Steuben County on the 80

acres which he purchased for \$600.00. In 1878 he bought the Jonas Dayhuff farm of 40 acres and in 1884 and 1886 he bought 34 acres from the Shaver heirs, making a farm of 154 acres. There were only 7 acres of cleared land and a log house on the 80 when he purchased it. He cleared, fenced, ditched, and built the present buildings.

January 1, 1861, he married Betsy S. Howard, who was born in Warren County, Pa. To this union were born 5 children: Emma E., Ezra L., Benson H., Susan L., and Hattie B. He was known as Squire Dodge as he was Justice of the Peace for a good many years performing marriages, settling estates, and doing a good deal of other legal work at that time. He was a charter member of the Farmer's Mutual and Lightning Insurance Company, also the Farmer's Mutual Cyclone and Windstorm Insurance Company of Steuben County, and was a director until a short time before he died.

He managed his farm all his life except for 6 years when he rented it to Charles and Emma Dodge Shumaker. In 1909 the oldest grandchild,

Harry Dodge Anderson, came to help operate the farm. He passed away in 1914, and the farm was taken over by Ezra and the rest of the family to operate, and to make a home for grandmother Dodge, who passed away in 1919. The farm has since been operated by Harry, who received a deed in 1936, making the farm operated by the Dodge family for over 100 years.

Mr. Dodge held positions of trust and confidence in the days when it meant sacrifice and money rather than financial gain. He was a public spirited man, giving liberally, especially to the churches of the community, which he helped to build. He was brought up under the strictest Baptist discipline and retained that faith throughout his life. Grandfather and grandmother helped the unfortunate and sacrificed a good many times, especially to help their children get a good start.

### Biography of Emily Gilbert Dygert

Emily Gilbert, daughter of Theodore and Ellen Gilbert, was born in Worthington, Ohio, January 5, 1865, a descendant of a very distinguished family. Her great-grandfather, Joseph Johnson, was Governor of Virginia from 1856 to 1860, and her mother lived in the Governor's Mansion in Richmond during his term of office. She was also a great-granddaughter of General Griswold of Ohio.

As a child she was affiliated with the St. John's Episcopal Church. When she was eleven, her family moved to Angola, Indiana, having been urged by a friend, Jesse Gale, to locate in a "Land of Promise."

She had three brothers and one sister. Matthew, a dentist, is deceased, and the Honorable Newton W. Gilbert, also deceased, was a member of the United States Senate and Governor General of the Philippine Islands. He had been around the world three times, making one of the voyages with the Taft party. Guy Gilbert, of Santa Ana, California, and a sister, Mrs. Vera Janes, of Angola, a librarian and the widow of the late Reverend Henry Janes, survive.

In 1891 she married George A. Dygert. He was a 32nd degree Mason and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. There were three children: Ellen, Florence, and Newton.

Ellen, after being graduated from high school, spent some time at the Malacan Palace in Manila,

Philippine Islands, as a guest of her uncle, Newton Gilbert. She taught several months in an American School in Bagio, and in 1917 married Major General Lewis B. Hershey. After an assignment in the Hawaiian Islands he was appointed Director of Selective Service of the United States. The Hersheys have two sons and two daughters. Major Gilbert Hershey is stationed at the Pentagon in Washington, and George Hershey, formerly a Lieutenant in the Marines, lives in Seattle, Washington. A daughter, Kathryn, is married to Aaron Layne, a lawyer in Washington, and Ellen Margaret is married to Captain Sam Barth and lives at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky.

Newton, who is deceased, was graduated from high school in 1917. He took a course in the Burgess Radio Engineering School at Chicago, and was graduated in Radio Engineering from Valparaiso. He was Radio Officer first class on the largest Standard Oil vessel in the world, and had crossed the ocean seventeen times. He was a member of the Masons and was talented in singing and instrumental music.

Florence was graduated from high school, attended Tri-State College, and was employed for many years as cashier of the College Bookstore on the Ohio State Campus at Columbus. She has literary talent, and was formerly on the radio station on the Ohio State Campus.

Mrs. Dygert belonged to the Congregational Church, the Congregational Guild, the Bible Study Class, and the Eastern Star. She lived almost a saintly life. In spite of a hearing handicap which would darken almost any person's outlook she always looked on the bright, cheerful, side. In less than a year and two months she lost by death her mother, husband, and son. She had many things to worry her and sadden her life, but was always trying to cheer someone else and to make life easier for those with lesser burdens. In her prayers she always asked that others be blessed, and at home she sang many songs of hope and faith. She was a talented artist, and in her younger days painted many beautiful pictures.

Her passing is our earthly loss and Heaven's gain.

### Biography of Wilbur R. Eatinger

Wilbur R. Eatinger, son of Calvin and Ella (Mabie) Eatinger, was born in Jackson Township

on June 19, 1909, and resided there with his parents for twenty years. His father and mother have spent their entire lives in Steuben County.



He was married on December 19, 1932, to Maxine Porter, daughter of Charles and Ethel (Thrasher) Porter. On September 9, 1933, a son, Robert Lee, was born to them; and on August 22, 1936, a daughter, Willa Maxine.

Wilbur attended High School at Metz and in 1937 he was graduated from the Reppert School of Auctioneering. Since then he has been engaged in auctioneering and farming in Scott Township. During the year 1954 Mr. Eatinger sold 215 auctions. All sales for schools, churches, and lodges, also the 4-H Fair, are sold free of charge.

He is associated mostly with Mr. Robert Cleckner in the Auctioneering business.

### Biography of Dr. Lester Lyman Eberhart

Dr. Lester Lyman Eberhart was born in 1897 at Bippus, Indiana. He was the son of William D. and Carrie (Sell) Eberhart of Huntington, Indiana.



He married Helen M. Jackson, daughter of John Howard and Mary Edna (Hoggott) Jackson of Hagerstown, Indiana, on June 14, 1929. They have one son, William Don, born on August 9, 1935.

Dr. Eberhart was graduated as a Doctor of Medicine from Indiana University Medical School in 1930.

Immediately after serving his internship at the Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, Indiana, he came to Angola where he enjoyed a large practice as a physician and surgeon.

Dr. and Mrs. Eberhart were the founders of Angola's beautiful Elmhurst Hospital, Inc., in 1948, located at Summitt and West Maumee Streets, which is being operated as a non-profit institution. The buildings and equipment are modern throughout. It is interesting to know that in the building of the edifice the doctor made sure that it conformed to the beautiful trees around it, thus preserving them to enhance the property.

Dr. Eberhart was a member of the Indiana State, District, and County Medical Associations;



the Tri-State Medical Associations; the Michigan State and County Medical Associations; and the Phi Chi Medical Fraternity. He was president of the County Medical Association for many years and Coronor for the city for about 16 years. He was also a member of the Lions.

One of Steuben County's most loved citizens, he was known for his vitality, his devotion to the causes which he had fostered, his inflexible attitude toward what he considered right, and his appreciation of the humanities. He passed away on January 18, 1949.

### Biography of John Harvey Elliott

John Harvey Elliott, a successful farmer, and a life long resident of Steuben County was born in York Township on January 24, 1866, the son of



Joseph Canfield and Sarah (Garrett) Elliott. He died on March 19, 1946, at the age of eighty years.

As a boy he and his brother, Frank, enjoyed hunting, trap-

ping, and fishing in Clear Lake.

He received his schooling at the Rathburn School which was across the road from the farm where he was born and always lived.

He was married to Jennie Belle Brattin of Swanton, Ohio, on February 16, 1893.

Because of his father's illness, John took over the farming at an early age and there he and his wife, Jennie, built a home and lived for over fifty years.

They had four children as follows: Ollie Grace, born November 20, 1893; Earl Richard, born September 26, 1895; Lloyd Harold, born May 1, 1900; and Lena Mary, born June 1, 1903. They had nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

### Biography of Charles E. Elya

Charles E. Elya was born in Edon, Ohio, March 20, 1881. His parents were Wallace and LaRance

Elya. The family moved to Angola in 1884. Charles



Elya married Nora Kemery in 1906. They have no children. He worked as a clerk in Stiefel's Store in Angola, and later managed the Croxton Opera House for five years. He established the Majestic Motion Picture Theatre, and operated that for three years. It was at first called The Rex, and Henry Eisele was a partner in the

enterprise. Later Joe Brokaw operated it before opening what he called The Little Theatre in the first block on West Maumee Street.

Mr. Elya brought to Angola many outstanding theatrical attractions. They included such headliners as Frank Bacon, the Watson Sisters, Cal Stewart, Sarah Bernhardt, Lionel Barrymore, who was here about 1901, when he played "Money and the Humming Bird." May Irwin came about 1903-4 in "She Knows Better." Madam Rhea played here in 1899 in "Empress of the French," taking the part of Josephine.

In 1914 Mr. Elya was on the road as advance agent for May Laport Rep. Company. In 1915 he went to work for International Correspondence Schools as field Representative at Kokomo, Indiana, and after eight years was sent south by the Company to be Sales Manager for the State of Florida. In 1928 he was promoted to Divisional Sales Manager, Southern Department, having charge of sales in the entire Southern States. He retired in 1949 as assistant to the Vice President. In 1950 he was elected to the Board of Directors of International Textbook Company which is the Parent Company of the International Correspondence Schools. The same year he was elected as a member of the President's Executive Committee, which position he still holds.

During his years as sales manager Mr. Elya was frequently called upon by the management for lectures on Educational benefits by correspondence, and later was much in demand for lectures on sales technique by the International Correspondence Schools, travelling over the country and meeting with sales groups. During the past four years he has been one of the chief advisors to the President of the Company, which owns and operates the Haddon Press, one of the largest manufacturers of Hard Bound Books, now printing an average of 50,000 books per day.

## Biography of Albert Emmons Emerson

The original Emerson farm, which at this time (1954) is more than 100 years old, was purchased by Luke Allen Emerson from his father, Avery Emerson, who, with his wife, Sophronia Allen and their children, was among the first settlers of Salem Township. Five generations of Emerson children have been raised on this farm.

Luke and Hettie M. (Jacobus) Emerson were married September 30, 1856. (She was from Ontario, Indiana). They were the parents of four children, Albert Emmons being the second child but the first son. He was born June 7, 1859, and died February 11, 1942.

In the year of 1864, when he was five years of age, his father died, leaving the widow and four young children. The family, through careful management, was able to keep and live on the farm which the father had left to them. The children were given the usual district school education, being sent to the Klink school. When Emmons was about 14 years of age the family gradually took over the management of the farm.

As a young man he attended Hillsdale College, at Hillsdale, Michigan, where he took a business course and then returned to the farm home. Eventually he purchased an interest in the farm where he lived his entire life. In 1893 he modernized the farm by building a large stock barn, and adding considerably to the house.

In 1894 Emmons Emerson was married to Jessie Mansfield of Toledo, Ohio, whom he met while attending Hillsdale College. To them were born five children: Margaret (Mrs. George Butler), Salem Center; Louise (Mrs. Nelson Imus), Bemidji, Minnesota; Allen, Rome City, Indiana; John, East Lansing, Michigan; and James, who owns and lives on this farm, where much interesting history has been made.

His grandchildren are Helen, Rose, and Marie Butler; Margaret, Emerson, and Mary Imus; Jean, Joyce, and Lawrence Emerson; Alice, Martha, and Kathryn Emerson; Barbara, Lois, Emily, Jessie, Beth, and John Emerson.

He was a man of decision for the right and always used his influence for the betterment of his own, his church, and the community. He was a member from early manhood of the Presbyterian Block Church, of which he was a Ruling Elder for nearly fifty years. On the fortieth anniversary he

was honored by receiving a gold watch from the congregation for long and faithful service. He served as Clerk of the Session for over fifty continuous years.

While he was a home-loving man, he was greatly interested in politics and the state of the nation, though he cared little about being in public life. He was President of the Farmers Mutual Fire and Lightning Insurance Company for many years. He and Mrs. Emerson were very active charter members in the Alpha Farmers Club, of which he was the first President, and in which they continued their membership as long as either of them lived.

On February 14, 1942, a memorial service was held at his home for him, nearly eighty-three years of age, and the interment was made on the Emerson Plat in the Block Cemetery.

## Biography of John L. Estrich

John L. Estrich was born in 1885 in Williams County, Ohio. He is one of four children of Charles and Sarah (Allomong) Estrich, who were also natives of Williams County. He grew up on a farm and received his early education in the rural schools of Ohio. In 1908 he received an AB degree from Tri-State College. That same year he accepted the position of High School Principal at Enderlin, North Dakota. Two years later he was made Superintendent.



From North Dakota he went to Forest, Ohio, where he was Superintendent of Schools for five years. In 1919 he came to Angola as a Science and Mathematics teacher. From 1921-1924 he was High School Principal. In 1925 he succeeded Heyman Allman as Superintendent of Schools, a position he held until 1947 when he retired after thirty-nine years of teaching.

Mr. Estrich holds an AB degree from Ohio State University (1913) and a Master's Degree from Columbia University (1927).

Mr. Estrich was the moving force behind the construction of the new Angola Public School building in 1932 which replaced a structure that was forty-eight years old. In 1934 all the pupils of Pleasant Township were brought into Angola, a consolidation that practically doubled the elementary enrollment. During his connection with An-



gola Schools there were eleven hundred and fifty-five graduates, so the reach of his personal influence can not be estimated, for in a small school the teacher contacts all of his students. Mr. Estrich knew all of his.

In 1910 John Estrich married Zora Anna Crissinger, daughter of James and Emeline (Robinson) Crissinger. She was a native of Steuben County and a graduate of Tri-State College in 1905. Mrs. Estrich shared her husband's interest in young people up until her death in 1946. Their daughter, Elaine Emeline, married Darrel L. Hodson, who is an attorney in Kokomo, Indiana. There are two grandsons, John Darrel and James Leroy.

In 1945 Mr. Estrich was the President of the Northeastern Indiana Teachers Association. He is a member of the Department of Superintendents of the National Educational Association. For twenty-two years he has been a member of the Northern Indiana Superintendent's Club, and he holds an honorary life membership in the Indiana City and Town Superintendents Association.

After Mr. Estrich retired from teaching in 1947 he offered his services to the city when there was a need for a City Clerk Treasurer. Subsequently, he was elected to serve a full term. So, for thirty-four years he has been a public servant in Angola, bringing efficiency and enthusiasm to the educational institution and to the city administration.

Although he has spent many years in school work his interests are not confined to education alone. From boyhood he has kept a strong, abiding loyalty to the Methodist Church. Within the local church he has held numerous responsibilities; thirty years a Sunday School teacher, twenty years a choir member, thirty years a member of the Finance Committee, five years local Lay Leader, and one year District Lay Leader. Besides, he occasionally fills the pulpit.

For twenty-nine years he has been a member of Rotary International, serving as President of the local club in 1927-28. He attended the International Convention held in Minneapolis in 1927 and in 1954 the Convention in Seattle.

He has been either President or Vice President of the Steuben County Tuberculosis Association for twenty-five years.

In 1948 Mr. Estrich married Lilly Kohl, daughter of William and Amelia Kohl. She is a native of

Steuben County, a graduate of Tri-State College, and holds a Master's Degree from the University of Chicago.

John Estrich has a remarkable faith in the goodness of the human race. He honestly likes people. Everywhere he travels—from East to West Coast, from Florida to Canada—he stops to call on friends. And his friends—many of whom are former students or fellow teachers—take the time to call on him when they come to Steuben County. He never loses track of them though years may have passed between visits. They like his good cheer. Always quick to give help, he has listened to uncounted problems and experiences from people who need understanding advice. This kind of generous good will improves any atmosphere. Certainly John Estrich makes the lives he touches more hopeful, more kindly, more deeply faithful, stronger than they could be without him.

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### Biography of Ora E. Eyster

Ora E. Eyster, deceased, was born in Richland Township, Steuben County, on October 20, 1877. He was the third child of Edward and Mary (Enfield) Eyster.

He was united in marriage to Elizabeth Kiess, the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Burkhart) Kiess, on March 7, 1900. Mrs. Eyster was a school teacher, having taught a number of terms in schools in Williams County, Ohio.

The first three years of their married life they lived on a farm in Michigan. Then they bought a farm in Alvarado in Richland Township, where they lived and raised a family of five children. In 1918, they moved to Eden, Ohio, where Mr. Eyster was engaged in the merchandising business. After a year they moved back to the farm, seeing that country life was far more enjoyable to a family of energetic children.

Their five children, Isaac, Ernest, Paul, Mrs. Burton (Lois) McClellan, and Mrs. Donald (Lelah) Gilbert all reside in Steuben County. There are nineteen grandchildren: Donald, Darwin, Larry, Mrs. Ora (Aileen) Casper, and Shirley, the five children of Isaac Eyster; Ernest Eyster is the father of five daughters, Mrs. Raymond (June) Friskney, Mrs. Harold (Maxine) Keller, Mrs. Norman (Marguerite) Thomas, Mrs. James (Jeanette) Walkup, and Marlene Eyster; the three sons of

Paul Eyster are Jack, William, and James; Dale McClellan, Mrs. Walter (Arlene) Winski, and Anita are the children of Mrs. Burton (Lois) McClellan; Mrs. Donald (Lelah) Gilbert is the mother of three children, Wendell, Stanley, and Elaine.

The nineteen grandchildren live in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Massachusetts, Florida, New Mexico, California, and two grandsons are in the service stationed in Arkansas and Alaska. Another grandson served two years in Germany during his time in service. There are thirteen great-grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Eyster were active members of the Alvarado M. E. Church during the forty-three years they lived on the farm. They were always active in community affairs, giving unselfishly of their time and talents.

Since Mr. Eyster's death on April 29, 1946, Mrs. Eyster has lived in Angola, where she is a member of the Angola M. E. Church. Her present residence is 105 N. Williams.

### Biography of Eugene W. Feaser

Eugene W. Feaser, son of Wm. and Maggie Feaser, was born at Enola, Pennsylvania, April 6, 1910.

He was united in marriage March 23, 1940, to Gladys Leedy of Duncannon, Pennsylvania, at Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Feaser attended Grade and High School in Duncannon, Pa.

In 1928 he entered the Hotel Business at Harrisburg, Pa.

During the years of 1929 to 1935 he was in the Armed Services of his Country, after which he returned to Pennsylvania where he again went into the Hotel Business, serving the Penn Harris Hotel at Harrisburg. After leaving Penn Harris, he joined the Pick Hotel Corporation as Catering Manager at the Ft. Hayes Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.

He then became Executive Assistant Manager at the Secor Hotel in Toledo, Ohio.

His next positions were with the Pick System at Canton and Youngstown, Ohio, and at the Oliver Hotel at South Bend, Indiana.

On October 1, 1949, Mr. Feaser came to Angola, Indiana, where he purchased the Dixie Restaurant, which he still owns and operates.

Mr. and Mrs. Feaser are the parents of one daughter, Joy Ann Feaser, 13 years of age.

### Biography of John Meredith Ferrier

John Meredith Ferrier was born November 26, 1881, near Alvarado or Richland Center as it was sometimes called. His parents, John and Mary



Richardson Ferrier, came to Steuben County and settled near Metz about the year 1840. He received only a limited grade schooling.

On December 23, 1905, he was married to Leota Blanche Jones, the daughter of the late George Jones, Sr., of Hamilton. To John and Leota Ferrier were born four children: Clarence Andrew, who passed away in 1934; Carrey Elsworth, of Sand Creek, Michigan; Kenneth, who passed away in 1912; and Denver Robert, of Metz.

John spent his early years in farming. In 1925, he started a milk route to Butler, Indiana, with a team of horses and wagon, which meant a trip from early morning until night. Later he bought a light truck and, as business picked up and more farmers changed from the old hand crank separator to the easier method of sending whole milk, he bought a large truck. At one time he had two trucks to haul the milk as more and more farmers turned to dairying. He retired January 1, 1944.

In 1926 they moved from the farm to Metz. Being occupied with the hauling of milk, he had little time for farming. Mrs. Ferrier and their son Carrey bought the Ted and Don Hand Ice Cream Parlor and later bought cream. Carrey left the business a year later and Mrs. Ferrier continued the operation of the store. Still later, she bought the old Martin Burch store building and moved into it, adding a line of groceries. She operated this store until 1942 when, because of ill health and the added work required when rationing became effective, she closed the doors.

Mr. Ferrier has always been a staunch Republican, although he never ran for any political office. He was making preparation to enter the First World War and expected to be in the next call when the Armistice came.

The Ferriers were members of the Mount Pleasant United Brethren Church until they moved to Michigan, where they lived from 1917 to 1923. In 1923 they returned to Indiana to a farm on the



state line on which the Indiana Turnpike has its beginning.

They now reside in Metz where they have made their home for the past thirty years. Mrs. Ferrier has been in poor health for a number of years and Mr. Ferrier spends much of his time caring for her.

Mostly as a hobby, Mr. Ferrier keeps a cow and a few chickens.

### Biography of Dawson Harold Fifer

Dawson Harold Fifer was born February 10, 1902, in Salem Township on his grandfather Resler's farm, and is a prominent and progressive farmer of Steuben and DeKalb Counties; the greater part of his life being spent in Steuben County where he has demonstrated the stability and determination of his ancestors, who came to Steuben County in the early 1870's.

Dawson Fifer is the eldest of nine children born to Fred Fifer (1876-1937) and Mable Eleanor (May) Resler Fifer, (1881-1952.) The other children were: Zada (deceased), Lucille, Vern, L. D., Alta Marie, Wilbur, Rolland, and Marion. The father was born in Steuben Township and the mother in Salem Township.

The paternal grandfather was Franklin Fifer (1850-1922.) He was a farmer and coal dealer. He married Lucinda Beigh (1854-1883), from Salem Township. Her father was John Beigh, a cooper and farmer.

The maternal grandparents, George W. Resler (1846-1931) and his wife Francis Woolery Resler (1847-1915) came to Salem Township in the early 1870's from Van Wert County, Ohio. Here they purchased a farm one mile east of the Block Cemetery, moved there and reared a family of three children. Mr. Resler, a carpenter, was also a United Brethren Minister.

When Dawson was six years old his parents moved to Pleasant Lake from the Salem Township homestead where his father was engaged in farming and teaming. Dawson was educated in the Pleasant Lake school, being graduated in 1919. In 1918 the Fifer family moved to a farm near Angola, residing there twelve years, then purchasing a farm near Metz, where Mr. Fifer died. Mrs. Fifer maintained her own home until her death.

July 8, 1921, Dawson married Irene Lavon Henney of near Hudson, the daughter of Franklin (1866-1954) and Josephine Rosina (Vogtman) Hen-

ney (1877-1938). She was a graduate of the Ashley High School and Warner Beauty College, Fort Wayne, which profession she followed for a number of years.

Mr. and Mrs. Fifer are the parents of Josephine Eleanor Fifer Stackhouse, who is an accountant. Her husband, Albert Stackhouse, is a salesman at Kendallville. Dorsey DeWan Fifer, Ashley, is associated with Cleveland United Milk Company and farming; his wife Phillis Fisher of Markle is a Registered Nurse. Franklin DeMoynne Fifer, of Hudson, is a mechanic at Angola; and his wife Martha Whittig, of Hudson, is a stenographer.

They have six grandchildren: Diane Sue, Phillip D. Stackhouse, Gregory Lynn, Deborah Jo, Rebecca Ann, children of Dorsey; and John Roger Fifer, son of Franklin.

Mr. and Mrs. Fifer established farming near Angola and after two years moved to their farm near Hudson. In 1945 they moved to their present home in Hudson. They are members and staunch workers in the Methodist Church, The Lion's Club, and ardent participants in all community affairs. With Dawson's reserved nature, good judgment and understanding, he filled a great need in his home and community. Mrs. Fifer, participating in many organizations of the community, has helped Dawson to carry on the visionary ideals of their ancestors that they may have established a great foundation for children and grandchildren.

### Biography of Dorsey Folck

Dorsey Folck was born July 15, 1888, in Scott Township, the son of Fremont and Rebecca Kaufman Folck. He resided his entire life in Steuben county.



He was married October 29, 1910, to Mildred Gundrum. The Gundrums were pioneers here in York Township, and came from Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry. Mrs. Folck's mother, Lila Powers Gundrum, was a granddaughter of Winn Powers, one of the original Powers settlers in York Township. The Powers family came from New York State in a covered wagon, and they were of English and Scotch descent. Lila A. Powers' father, Calvin (Put) Powers, was a boy of 2 years old when the families made this journey. Dor-

sey's grandfather, John Keifer Folck, came here when he was 18 years old, to clear a land grant which had been issued to his father in Marrow County, Ohio. The grant was in Scott Township and John Keifer Folck came here alone and on foot from Morrow County, Ohio. The only possessions he brought with him were an axe and a rooster. The rooster was to awaken him at dawn each morning, so he could continue with his task of girdling trees. During his life time he never owned a watch nor a gun, but was a real pioneer. He went back to Morrow County, Ohio, late that fall, and in two years returned with his family. The Folcks were of German descent, having migrated to Ohio from Pennsylvania.

Dorsey's mother, Rebecca Kaufman, was of Pennsylvania Dutch origin, and her family also came here from Pennsylvania in the early days of this County. Rebecca is still living and is 89 years old.

Dorsey's wife, Mildred, was born July 3rd, 1891, in Pleasant Township. Her parents lived in, and owned, what is now the Clyde Carlin estate at the east city limits of Angola.

Dorsey Folck has two children: Jessie, who married Carroll Ketzenberger, January 10, 1948; and Leona, who is a registered nurse, and is married to Charles Omlar, Jr., of Decatur, Indiana. They were married in 1940. Jessie's husband, Carroll, at the time of their marriage, was a partner in the Angola Bakery and is a baker by trade. Leona's husband is of German descent and has always worked at the General Electric Plant in Decatur, Indiana.

Dorsey finished grammar school in Scott Township and attended Tri-State College in Angola, Indiana, studying Business Administration.

He has farmed in York Township on one of the original Powers' homesteads all of his life with the exception of four years, from 1929 to 1933, when he was Sheriff of Steuben County.

He was an active member of the Lions Club of Angola from 1929 to 1933, a member of the K. of P. Lodge of Fremont and Metz, and of the Masonic Lodge at Hamilton.

Editor's Note: Mr. Folck passed away since the writing of his biography, 1955.

### Biography of Frank G. Gilbert

Frank G. Gilbert, son of David S. and Permilla (Grant) Gilbert was born on March 15, 1871, at Pleasant Lake, Steuben County, Indiana. He was

educated in the Pleasant Lake Schools and Tri-State College.

He worked in the Steuben County Bank in Angola for a number of years, but was called home by the death of his father in 1891, to take charge of the farm. The farm was later rented and he became cashier of the First National Bank of Angola, which position he held for 13 years, until he retired because of ill health.

Frank was a member of the House of Representatives in the Indiana Legislature for two terms, in 1929 and 1931. He was an intimate friend of the late Governor Harry D. Leslie, and was Republican floor leader in the House in 1931.

Mr. Gilbert was a member of the Masonic lodge, the First Baptist Church of Pleasant Lake, and of the Pleasant Lake Lions club. He wore a fifty year pin of the Masonic lodge.

On October 18, 1899, he married Iva Deller, a daughter of John and Lucy Deller. They lived in the old home, a brick house on the west bank of Pleasant Lake. This was built by his father in 1874. They owned a two hundred and thirty five acre farm near Pleasant Lake, part of which once belonged to his father. They spent five enjoyable winters in Florida.

They have a daughter Ruth Ann who was married June 16, 1926, to Harold A. Smith, a Chicago attorney-at-law. Their daughter, Elizabeth Ann, is a junior in college, and their home is in Evanston, Illinois.

Mr. Gilbert passed away at 83 years of age during the preparation of this history. He was a well known citizen and prominent in the affairs of the county for many years.

### Biography of Colonel Gaylord S. Gilbert

Gaylord S. Gilbert, retired Army Colonel, and now an Attorney-at-Law, in Angola, Indiana, was born August 26, 1894, the son of George W. and Sarah G. Gilbert of Pleasant Lake, Indiana.



Colonel Gilbert received his elementary and High School training at Pleasant Lake, Indiana. He attended Purdue University and was graduated from the Law School of the University of Louisville, Kentucky.

On October 1, 1953, at Yokohama, Japan, Colonel Gilbert was married to Lucille Grant of Columbia, South Carolina. He



has one son by a former marriage, Captain Richard H. Gilbert, now in Alaska.

Colonel Gilbert is a member of the Local Bar Association, the American Legion, the Rotary Club, the Acacia Fraternity, and is a member of the Christian Church of Angola, Indiana. He and Mrs. Gilbert reside at 407 No. Wayne Street, here in Angola. His special hobby is the game of golf.

Following his discharge from World War I, Colonel Gilbert practiced law in Kentucky and was Trust Officer for the Union Central Bank, Louisville, Kentucky. He entered World War II and served around the world as Inspector General and Judge Advocate General and in the office of the Secretary of the Army, Washington, D.C. He retired with the rank of Colonel in 1954, and now is practicing law at Angola, Indiana.

### Biography of Hugh L. Gilbert

Hugh L. Gilbert, deceased, was born in York Township, section 31, on May 6, 1873, and passed away on May 26, 1953, at the age of 80 years and 20 days, living his entire life in York and Richland Townships where he owned and operated 220 acres of land. He was the youngest son of William S. and Harriette (Case) Gilbert.

He was married on September 13, 1894, to Myra Warner, the daughter of T. J. and Matilda (Letcher) Warner, who were pioneer settlers in York and Richland Townships. There are five living children: Mrs. Otis (Hilda) Cary, Mrs. Howard (Loentine) Heller, Sylvester Gilbert, Donald Gilbert, and Mrs. Edgar (Mattie Lorene) Buell. Two children, Caryl and Dorothy May, passed away in infancy. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert enjoyed their nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. The grandchildren are: Robert Cary and Mrs. Charles (Ruth) Oberlin—the children of Mrs. Hilda Cary. Thomas Gilbert, Jr., and Dorothy are the two children of Sylvester Gilbert. Donald is the father of three children: Wendell, Stanley, and Elaine Gilbert. Howard and Harriette are the children of Mrs. Edgar Buell. There are two great-grandchildren, Sherrie and Diane Oberlin, the grandchildren of Hilda Cary.

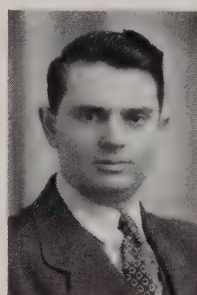
Mrs. Gilbert's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Letcher, were among the organizers of the Church of Christ at Metz and were charter members of that church. The Gilbert families have continued through the years to be active members of the church at Metz.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert were very active in community affairs, always giving their time to promote school activities and things to benefit their community. They were members of the Masonic Fraternity, Eastern Star, K. of P., and Pythian Sisters.

Mr. Gilbert served a term as County Commissioner and later served as County Councilman.

### Biography of Dudley W. Gleason, Jr.

Dudley W. Gleason, Jr. was born at Fremont, Indiana, June 10, 1914, the son of Dudley W. and Mary E. Gleason.



After graduation from Angola High School he attended DePauw University and the University of Illinois.

On June 3, 1936, he married Cathilene Beaumont, of Olney, Illinois, and the couple have two children, Nancy and John.

He was admitted to the practice of law by the Supreme Court of Indiana, and became associated in the legal profession with his father, with offices in the city of Angola.

In 1946 he was elected Representative in the Indiana General Assembly from LaGrange and Steuben Counties, in which capacity he served for three terms. In 1953 he was appointed Prosecuting Attorney and was elected to that office at the general election of 1954.

Mr. Gleason is a member of the Church of Christ, Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, and the Angola Kiwanis Club.

### Biography of Glen Golden

Glen Golden was born in Jackson Township, Steuben County, Indiana, the son of Ed. A. Golden and Lena (Barr) Golden. A brother, Ralph K. Golden, lives in Elkhart, Indiana, and a sister, Eula M. Parsell, lives in Indianapolis, Indiana.



Glen was married to Neva Van Wagner, March 30, 1924, and to this marriage were born two daughters: Mrs. Glenna Mae Wolam of South Bend, Indiana, who is the mother of one daughter, Karey Jean Wollam; and Mrs.

Garna Lee Miller, of Angola, Indiana. The Millers also have one daughter, Minda Rose Miller.

Mr. Golden attended Flint High School and also Dana's Musical Institute at Warren, Ohio. He followed the musical profession for a few years, then, being a lover of animals and country life, went into livestock farming business. For several years he raised purebred Hereford cattle. Mr. and Mrs. Golden also raise turkeys and were in that business for twenty years prior to 1946. They were the first in Steuben County to raise turkeys in confinement. They have shipped the dressed product to many parts of the United States.

In 1942 Mr. Golden started raising purebred Hampshire hogs and has built up a fine business in breeding stock. He also has a herd of registered Ayrshire dairy cattle.

Mr. and Mrs. Golden have resided on the former Judd B. Golden farm since February 1928, which place he has extensively improved and modernized.

Mr. Golden has been active in the Steuben County Farm Bureau, is a member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association, also the Ayrshire and Hampshire Breeders Association, and has also served on the Extension Committee in Steuben County.

He is an active member of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Angola.

### Biography of Neva (Van Wagner) Golden

Neva (Van Wagner) Golden, only daughter of Nellie (Shank) Van Wagner, was born in Jackson Township, Steuben County, Indiana.



She received her education in the Orland High School and Tri State Teachers College, also attended Indiana University and the University of Chicago.

Mrs. Golden taught for a period of ten years at Pleasant Lake, Flint, and Orland High Schools. She instituted at Orland High School in 1922, the School Lunch Program, which was the first of its kind in Steuben County.

Mrs. Golden is extremely active in community affairs: Farm Bureau, Home Economics Clubs, etc.

She is a member of the First Church of Christ, Scientist.

### Biography of Charles Green

Charles Green, summer resident of Lone Tree Point, Lake James, was born December 20, 1852, in Shelby County, Ohio; came to Indiana



when a young man, married Miss Olive Ann Sadler of Trimble County, Kentucky, and thereafter made Indiana his home until 1924, when he moved to Miami, Florida, his winter home until the time of his death in 1936. (He was preceded in death by his wife in 1934.)

He first saw Lake James on a cold winter day about 1908, but in spite of the ice, wind, and snow, was so charmed by the place that early in the following fall he and Mrs. Green made another visit, selected and bought a lot on Lone Tree Point as the site of a summer home. The next summer he built the cottage he named Be-Ta-Bun, an Indian word, meaning the early light just before the dawn. This is still the family summer home, although three of the surviving members (his son, Perry, and two daughters, Eudora A., and Ethel M. Green), live in Miami. The other daughter, Mrs. H. C. McClintick, lives in Anderson, Indiana.

### Biography of Samuel Philip Greeno

Samuel Philip Greeno is a prominent and progressive farmer of Steuben County. His entire life has been spent in his native Salem Township, where he has manifested the stability, determination, and forethought of his pioneer ancestors.

Samuel Greeno was born in Salem Township on April 27, 1897. He was the only child born to James Andrew Greeno (1856-1922) and Lovina (Ritter) Greeno (1863-1939).

The paternal grandfather was Samuel Greeno (1805-1884), who came from Scotland, where the family name was spelled Greenough. He married Abigail Free (1818-1904) of Portage County, Ohio. A pioneer church worker, Mrs. Greeno joined the M. E. Church in 1843 and was one of twelve who attended the first quarterly meeting held in Steuben County.

The maternal grandparents were Philip Ritter (1820-1898) and Martha (Gillander) Ritter (1832-1912). Philip Ritter, son of John Ritter, was born



in Pennsylvania and at an early age moved with his parents to Ohio. He came to Steuben County in 1852 and settled in Steuben Township. Besides farming, Philip Ritter was a carpenter, and worked as an undertaker for nearly fifty years. He was an expert cabinet maker, and his grandson, Samuel Greeno, is proud owner of several of his hand-made pieces of furniture. Martha (Gillander) Ritter was born in Dublin, Ireland, and with her husband John Anderson, and daughter Jane, came by boat to the United States, the voyage taking forty-five days. Mr. Anderson died in 1852, and in 1855 she married Philip Ritter. They were the parents of eight children and Lovina Ritter was one of them.

When Samuel Philip Greeno was a small boy his parents moved to the village of Salem Center where his father, James Andrew Greeno, operated a blacksmith and general repair shop, in addition to farming. The Greeno family later purchased the farm in section 4 where Samuel has continued to reside. He attended the Salem Township Public Schools and was graduated from the Salem High School in 1914.

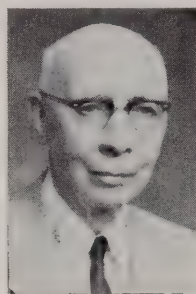
On July 23, 1918, Samuel P. Greeno married Mabel Emerson, the daughter of Abijah (1873-1941) and Clara (Spears) Emerson (1875-1912). She was graduated from Auburn High School in 1914, attended Tri-State College, and taught for four years in Salem Twp.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Greeno are the parents of Virginia Greeno Breese, Max Emerson Greeno, and Gene Alice (Greeno) Ott. Both Mr. and Mrs. Greeno are members of the Salem Center Presbyterian Church, where he is an active elder and she is a teacher.

The versatility of the Greeno family has been revealed in the years of their residence in Salem Township. Mr. Greeno is a charter member of the Farm Bureau and has taken an active part in its development and progress. Reticent in nature, with good judgment and deep understanding, Mr. Greeno fills a great need in his home and community. His mechanical talents and home repair shop are shared with neighbors and friends. Mrs. Greeno has been an ardent participant in community and organizations and together, Mr. and Mrs. Greeno have continued to carry on the ideals and dreams of their pioneer ancestors, that they too may leave a greater heritage for their children and grandchildren.

## Biography of Professor Burton Handy

Burton Handy was born on a farm in Clear Lake Township, Steuben County, Indiana, October 26, 1884, son of Hiram C. Handy and Ellen Margaret



(Gowthrop) Handy. He was educated through the eighth grade in the schools of Clear Lake Township, and at the age of sixteen entered Tri-State Normal College to prepare for teaching. The first year of teaching was at the Bell School in Fremont Township. The next few years were spent in teaching and attending college until

in 1907 he was graduated from Tri-State College with the Bachelor of Arts degree.

The years 1907-13 were spent in teaching in various High Schools and Commerce Schools in Indiana, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. He also spent one and one half years during this interval working as a clerk in a general merchandise store.

In 1913 he entered the service of Tri-State College as head of the Commerce Department. He acquired a financial interest in the school in 1914, and was a member of the directing board until his retirement in 1946. During the years up to 1935 he served as teacher and administrative official in the offices of Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. In 1935 he was chosen as President of the College, and headed the institution for eleven years. In all, he spent forty-two years of his life in the teaching profession, thirty-three of which were in the service of Tri-State College.

In 1929 he was elected a member of the Council of the City of Angola, and occupied that office for a period of nine years. During that time the present sewerage system was developed and the construction of the present City Hall was undertaken, two of the major activities of that period.

In 1933 he was elected to the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of Angola. He was chosen Vice-President of the bank, and retained that position until 1946.

He was affiliated with the Christian Church of Angola for forty-seven years, and served in various capacities in the life of the church during those years. At present his membership is in the Mirror Lake Christian Church, St. Petersburg, Florida, where he was recently elected Elder-Emeritus of the congregation.

In 1907 he was married to Jeanette Maud Watson of Whitley County, Indiana. To this union three children were born. Russell Franklin married Irene Lucile Drummond of Fort Wayne, Indiana. They have three children, David Gordon, Russell Franklin, Jr., and Catherine Lucile. He is now living in Miami, Florida. Burton, Jr., married Hope Sutton of Angola, Indiana, and now lives in Kirkwood, Missouri, a suburb of St. Louis. They have one child, Janice Ellen. Lucy Ellen married Ernest S. Preuitt of Kansas City, Missouri, and is now living in that city. They have no children.

After the death of his wife in July, 1947, Mr. Handy was married to Blanche Bruner of Indianapolis, Indiana, in December, 1948. His residence at present is 529 Twelfth Street North, St. Petersburg, Florida, with summer home at Lake James, five miles from Angola, Indiana.

Professor Handy passed away after this biography was written. His death occurred on Tuesday, July 12, 1955.

### Biography of Frank P. Hall

Frank P. Hall was born June 27th, 1887, the son of Charles E. and Minnie A. (Bovee) Hall.



He was married June 27, 1928, to Harriette Francis Post at New Castle, Indiana. They have one daughter, Elizabeth Charlayne, born March 1st, 1932, and married February 11, 1952, to Donald R. Mills. Mr. and Mrs. Mills are the parents of two children, Mary Ellen Mills, born February 24th, 1953; and Steven Michael Mills, born January 22nd, 1955.

Mr. Hall served in World War I from May 25th, 1917, to September 24th, 1919. He was in the 24th Cavalry and 82nd Field Artillery at Ft. D. A. Russell (now Fort Warren), Wyoming; Camp Logan, Houston, Texas; and Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas.

He is, and has been since November, 1944, a Post Office Clerk at Fremont, Indiana.

Since 1912 he has been an active member of Northeastern Lodge No. 210 F. and A. M., Fremont, Indiana. He has served in the several offices of the Lodge and is now serving his 29th year as Secretary.

His hobby is the planting of trees, and farm development.

### Biography of Earl W. Hantz

Earl W. Hantz, well known local contractor, was born in Scott Township, Steuben County, on August 1, 1913, to Ervin and Ola Teegardin Hantz.

He married Velma Skelly, daughter of Elmer and Dessie Ritter Skelly, in 1934, after which they made their home on a farm in Scott Township. He devoted his time to farming and carpenter work.

They have four children—Shirley, who is now attending Tri-State College; Wendell, Janet, and Wayne, who are all students at Metz High School.

In 1947 he purchased a small farm in York township, where the family now resides. At that time he began to devote full time to contracting.

In 1951 he became an authorized dealer for United States Steel Homes, Inc., along with his general contracting.

He is a member of the North Scott Christian Church and of the Loyal Order of Moose.

In his spare time, Earl likes to hunt wild game, and has made several trips to Canada to hunt deer.

### Biography of Pyrl J. Harpham

Pyrl J. Harpham was born May 5, 1887, in Steuben Township, Steuben County, on the farm where he is now living. His parents were John and Loretta Harpham. They were both born and lived their entire lives in this county. John Harpham was an enterprising citizen, helping to establish the first mail route, and the first telephones for the farmers. He was active in the County Fair project. His wife, Loretta, was the daughter of Nicholas Deller and Mary Fetterhoff. All were active members of the United Brethren Church.

While attending Huntington College, Pyrl met Nellie Whitaker whom he married December 28, 1909. Nellie has been active in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, holding different offices in the County and State. She attended the World's W.C.T.U. convention at Hastings, England, in 1950.

To them were born five children: Wilma, Evelyn, Virginia, John, and Robert. After their marriage they farmed for eight years, then moved to College Park, Huntington, Indiana, for ten years. There Mr. Harpham began his insurance agency, with the State Farm Insurance Companies, which he carried on for twenty-five years, maintaining an office in Angola the latter ten years. On retir-



ing from active business life, he built a cottage, ranch type, on the old homestead beside their son John and his family. John and his wife, Marjorie, have three children: Judith, John Joseph (Joe), and David. Their only living daughter is Virginia Ruth who married Dale Harpham. They have two children, Evelyn and George. They are very active in music circles in Washington, D.C. Dale is Second Leader of the United States Marine Band.

In 1905 Mr. Harpham attended Tri-State College where his main interest was learning to drum, taking lessons of Speil Weiss, instead of studying. His beginning experience was with the Pleasant Lake orchestra led by Earl Tuttle, later with the Purdue, Huntington, and Angola bands.

As a first, he was the first Steuben County born person to make an airplane flight in one of those early crates, at the San Francisco Exposition in 1915. A more sane venture was the putting on of a Steuben County exhibit at the Indiana State Fair showing farm products, grains, legumes, vegetables, fruits, and a maple display, winning three firsts out of seven years. Working so hard at this in the dust of the busy agricultural hall, he contracted an asthmatic condition which later forced him to go to Arizona, and he and his wife have been spending their winters there since.

### Biography of David Haskins

David Haskins was born in LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1851. He was united in marriage with Janett Ryan in 1873 and established a home in a log house



in the northwest corner of Salem Township, where they lived a few years. From the time of their marriage they lived their entire lives in Salem Township.

In 1881 they moved to Salem Center where he engaged in the hardware business and continued in this business for several years and was a very successful merchant. In 1888 he sold the hardware business to Mr. M. B. Butler and moved to a farm he had purchased one mile north of Salem Center where he engaged in farming.

David and Janett had three children, Willis and Fred, now living in Kendallville, Indiana, and Clara Haskins Hughes who died February 8, 1949. For eight years Mr. Haskins served Salem Township as its Trustee and a few years later was elected and served two terms as county commissioner. As a public official he served the township and county faithfully and well. He was constantly and intelligently thinking that through true education the moral responsibilities of the human family are better understood.

In 1898 he moved back to Salem Center where he lived as a retired farmer and business man until his death in 1927. Mrs. Haskins survived him only a few years. He was a man of strong character, a good counselor, his integrity never questioned, high ideals, and always interested in any community enterprise.

Mr. and Mrs. Haskins were both members of the Methodist Church, and he was a member of the I. O. O. F. Lodge.

### Biography of George Washington Hendry

George Washington Hendry was born on January 18, 1869, at Angola, Indiana. He was the son of Lewis Alonzo and Chloe Moss Hendry and spent his entire life in Steuben County.



He was educated in the city schools of Angola and was one of the eight members of the first graduating class of Tri-State College.

In April 24, 1890, Mr. Hendry was united in marriage to Miss Orzell Brown of Fremont, Indiana, and to this union were born six children.

Mr. and Mrs. Hendry made their home on a farm in Otsego Township, later moving to Angola, where they resided at 408 North Wayne Street.

On September 21, 1911, an accident took the life of their eldest son, Louis.

Mr. Hendry also lost his life in an accident which occurred at the farm home on June 16, 1918. He is buried beside his wife in Circle Hill Cemetery in Angola, Indiana.

### Biography of Mrs. George W. Hendry

Mrs. George W. Hendry (nee Orzell Brown) was the daughter of Robert and Eliza Ann Redmond

Brown. She was born at the farm home of her parents near Fremont, Indiana, on October 16, 1869, and was educated in the city schools of Fremont, Indiana.



In April 24, 1890, she was united in marriage to George W. Hendry of Angola, Indiana. To this union were born six children, namely: Louis George Hendry (deceased); Enola Pauline Hendry (Mrs. Noah Bash); Adah Elnora Hendry (Mrs. Howard B. Miller); Chloe Hendry (dying at birth); George Louis Hendry; and Willa Jeannette Hendry (Mrs. George W. Molesworth).

In later years Mr. and Mrs. Hendry moved to Angola, Indiana, where they resided at 408 North Wayne Street.

Mrs. Hendry died suddenly during the early morning hours of January 30, 1918, at the home on North Wayne Street, and is buried beside her husband in the family burial plot in Circle Hill Cemetery in Angola, Indiana.

### Biography of Albert Porter Hughes

Albert Porter Hughes, named after Albert Porter, at that time Governor of Indiana, was born August 21, 1880, and died October 29, 1951.

He was the son of John Hughes (1838-1893) and Martha (Meek) Hughes (1847-1918.) He was the 11th child of a family of 14 children, eleven boys and three girls.

On June 22, 1898, he was married to Clara Haskins, who was born Dec. 23, 1880, and died Feb. 5, 1949. Clara was the daughter of David and Janet (spelled Janett in D. Haskin's biography) (Ryan) Haskins.

They had two sons, Dale, born August 21, 1899, and who was married to Wilma E. Cole. Their children were: Betty Joyce Myers, of Fort Wayne, Ind., Dr. Wendell Dean Hughes of Indianapolis, Indiana, and Dale Jr., of Salem Center, Indiana. Wayne, who was born August 3, 1901, married Ellen Sprinkle and their children are: Mrs. Carl F. Stallman of Kendallville Indiana; John Wayne and Dan Warren Hughes, at home. Don Albert, another son, died March 27, 1951.

Porter's formal education was brief, and after three years of schooling he started his life's work at 11 years of age. He first lived and helped in any

way that he could at the Emmons Emerson farm, where he remained until he was married.

Porter's first pay was \$5.00 a month, which he took to his mother to help her with family expenses and she provided his clothing, making much of it. He was strong and not afraid of hard work and along with innate thrift and ability, he became a prosperous farmer. He was greatly interested in farming and used the improved methods with modern machinery. Eventually he was established, and owned the Haskins farm a mile north of Salem Center, where they lived most of their married life. As the years passed he invested in the adjoining farms, which were shared by his sons.

About 1946 he and Mrs. Hughes moved to their recently remodeled farm home, the former La-Dow place, first house north of Salem Center, where they lived the few remaining years of their lives. Here it was that they celebrated their Golden Wedding, with a reception given by their children and grandchildren in their honor. This was followed by an extensive motor trip to the West Coast.

Mr. Hughes was interested in the betterment of the community and in National Affairs. He served on the Steuben Township Advisory Board for eight years and on the Steuben County Council until the time of his death. He was a loyal Republican.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes were members of the Methodist Church of Salem Center and were active in church affairs, and Mr. Hughes served as Superintendent of the Sunday School until it closed.

### Biography of Dale Hughes, Sr.

Dale Hughes was born in Salem Township, Steuben County, Indiana, August 21, 1899, the older of two sons born to A. Porter and Clara (Haskins) Hughes.

On April 30, 1921, he was married to Wilma E. Cole, born April 20, 1901. She was the daughter of Sherman O. Cole and Mary L. (Dotts) Cole. To this union were born three children, Betty Joyce, Wendell Dean, and Dale, Jr.

Betty Joyce, born March 20, 1924, is now married to Lawrence F. Myers of South Bend, Indiana, and they make their home in Fort Wayne, Indiana. They have one child, Marcia Kay, born September 23, 1952.



Wendell Dean, born February 24, 1928, is now married to Joan E. Yoder of Topeka, Indiana. Their children are Vicki Lynn, born April 23, 1947; Wendy Jo, born September 3, 1951; and Daniel Porter, born December 15, 1952.

Dale Jr., born March 25, 1931, is now married to Emilyn Emerson of Salem Township, Steuben County. They have two daughters, Susan Dianne, born April 28, 1950; and Sandra Dawn, born October 8, 1953.

Dale Sr. was graduated from the Salem Center High School in 1919. He attended Tri-State Normal College, Ball State Teacher's College, and North Manchester College; receiving his AB degree in 1926. He majored in Education and History. Later he started his graduate work in Purdue University, then transferred to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he received his Master of Arts degree in 1924. Here he again majored in Education and History. The following summer he did post-graduate work in Latin at North Manchester College. He has had a wide experience in his teaching career, starting as a rural school teacher at the Ransburg School in Salem Township. He taught nine years in the Steuben County Schools, seven years in Starke County Schools, nine years in the LaPorte County Schools, and three years in LaGrange County Schools. During the last eighteen years of this time he was High School Principal.

Mr. Hughes retired from teaching in 1947 and moved to a farm which he purchased in Salem Township. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes have always had an ambition to see that their children were given a chance for success by helping them in their early lives. This could not have been achieved except by their mutual cooperation and ambition, for which much credit is due his good wife, who ran the home, raised a family, and taught school along with him for sixteen years. They are very proud of their children.

Betty Joyce was graduated from Purdue University with an AB degree in dietetics and had one year internship at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina.

Wendell Dean was graduated from Goshen College with an AB degree and in June 1955 will be graduated from Indiana School of Dentistry.

Dale Hughes, Jr., was graduated from a short course in Animal Husbandry at Purdue University. He is now a partner in the farming business with his father, who owns and operates 235 acres.

Dale Sr., is a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Scottish Rite Lodge of Perfection thirty-second degree, The Order of Knights of Pythias, The Eastern Star, and the Presbyterian Church.

### Biography of Frank D. Hughes

For over a hundred years the Hughes families have been associated with Steuben County. During the century the name has been a symbol of faith, industry, thrift, and perseverance that has developed and grown into success and prosperity. The early Hughes pioneers, like their neighbors and friends, endured the burdens and adversities of poverty and want. From the frontier cabin of this family came a people strong in body and mind who overcame the obstacles they were destined to bear. Their integrity and ambitions have made them a living tribute to the generations who have gone before.

Frank David Hughes, son of John Hughes (1838-1893) and Martha Meek Hughes (1847-1918), was born on September 3, 1866, in Salem Township. The family of fourteen children included Alonzo, Frank, Lester, Lewis, Emma, Sumner, Josephine, Porter, Rachel, Earl, Burl, James, who died at the age of twelve, and two who died in infancy.

The paternal grandfather, David Hughes, and the maternal grandparents, William and Rebecca Meek, came from Ohio.

At the age of nine Frank Hughes went to live with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cassell in Pleasant Township, where he worked for his livelihood. He later made his home with the A. E. Emerson family in Salem Township.

Frank Hughes received his early education in the North Klink School of Salem Township. Influenced by the A. E. Emerson family, he later prepared himself for the teaching profession. Handicapped by the lack of early schooling he found the work at Tri-State College, Logansport Seminary, and Terre Haute Teachers College, very difficult. By strenuous study, he received the training that enabled him to begin teaching at the age of nineteen. After teaching for twenty years he closed his teaching career in 1905 at Salem School.

On March 27, 1901, Frank Hughes married Leona Parsell who was born in Jackson Township on September 8, 1879, daughter of Austin Parsell (1855-1929) and Mary Adeline Weicht Parsell (1854-1938). After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes moved onto their farm in Salem Township.

An only child, Martha Adeline, was born to Frank and Leona Hughes on March 23, 1905. Adeline was graduated from Angola High School, attended Tri-State College and Indiana University, and taught for several years. Adeline Hughes married Dr. Theodore T. Wood, and their daughter Susan Jo Wood married Hugh T. Babcock of the United States Navy. Adeline's second marriage was to Arthur Hettema.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes moved by horse drawn wagon to Angola, where he took the office of County Clerk in January, 1912. After his four year term he became Deputy Clerk for Ralph Ousterhout. While serving in this capacity he was appointed by Governor Goodrich as State Inheritance Tax Investigator. During the flu epidemic of 1918, Mr. Hughes contracted the disease and was forced to resign from his state duties. He then became associated with the Steuben Sales Company and later had charge of the Automobile License Bureau.

Frank Hughes belongs to the Republican Party and has served as County Republican Chairman. Every year but two he has worked on the election board.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes were members of the Salem Presbyterian Church until they moved to Angola, where their membership was transferred to the First Congregational Church.

At the age of eighty-eight, Frank Hughes spends many hours working at his Salem Township Farm. He is admired and respected by all who know him for the fulfillment of his philosophy, "I want to wear out and not rust out."

### Biography of Lester J. Hughes

The generations of today and tomorrow are encountered by a great challenge set before them by their parents and grandparents. Lester J.



Hughes represents a strong link in the chain of progress of the Hughes Family. Although born of poor parents, in a new country, he continued the task set before him and acquired a heritage for his children that will be everlasting.

Lester J. Hughes, the third son of John Hughes (1838-1893) and Martha Meek Hughes, (1847-1918) was born in Salem Township on July 3, 1868. He was one of

fourteen children, namely: Alonzo, Frank, Lester, Lewis, Emma, Sumner, Josephine, Porter, Rachel, Earl, Burl, and James who died at the age of 12 years, and two who died in infancy.

David Hughes, the paternal grandfather, came from Ohio and was one of the earliest merchants in Salem Township, operating a general store at Dutch Mills. The maternal grandparents were William and Rebecca Meek, also from Ohio.

Lester J. Hughes received his early education at the North Klink School in Salem Township. Although he never reached the eighth grade, he was an excellent scholar and was able to help his children in solving the High School problems.

The first marriage of Lester Hughes was to Susan Haines and to them was born one son, Dean. In 1903, when Dean was eight years old, his mother died and the grandmother, Martha Hughes, came to care for the home.

Lester J. Hughes' second marriage was to Belle Wark (1876) in 1908. They were the parents of two daughters, Rowena and Lois.

During his lifetime Lester Hughes took keen interest and pride in the acquisition of several farms, which were shared with his wife and children. When a very young man, he purchased a plot of ground north of Trinity Church. He supplemented his income as a hired hand by carrying mail and shearing sheep. While residing in Salem Center he acquired forty acres in section 4, and walked the four miles each day to care for his sheep. He purchased several plots of acreage, but it was on his farm in section 14 of Salem Township that he spent a greater part of his life. Because of Mr. Hughes' ill health, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes moved to Hudson, Indiana, in 1942, and here he passed away on March 21, 1946. While residents of Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes attended the Methodist Church.

Politically, Lester Hughes was a member of the Republican Party and served as assessor and deputy assessor for twenty-one years. He walked many miles throughout the township to perform his duties, often leaving his horse in a conveniently located barn and going by foot through the fields and woods.

He was county commissioner from 1928 to 1932, and in this office he manifested his good judgment and superior executive abilities.

For many years Mr. Hughes was secretary of Salem Lodge which later merged with the I. O.

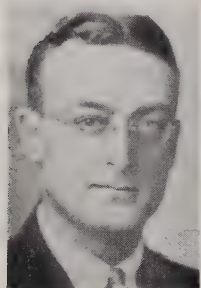


O. F. Lodge in Angola. In 1914 he joined the Hudson Masonic Order and was also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Hughes' entire life was spent in the fulfillment of his ideals for his family. Through hard work and planning, he left his children not only with material possessions, but with ideals and thoughts that lead to higher levels.

### Biography of Wayne Hughes

Wayne Hughes, son of A. Porter and Clara Haskins Hughes, was born August 3, 1901, in Salem Township, Steuben County, Indiana, on the old Haskins homestead one mile north of Salem Center, Indiana. He attended grade school in the Parsell School, Loon Lake, Hudson, and Salem Center. He was graduated from the Salem Center High School in the class of 1919.



Undecided as to what vocation he might choose until fall when the old school bell rang again, it was then that he decided to go to Tri-State College at Angola, Indiana, and enter the teachers training course. In the Spring of 1920 he completed a one room school position near Montpelier, Ohio, at what was known as the Eagle Creek School. Then in the fall of 1920 he accepted a school at Helmer, Indiana. Each summer found him attending school and in 1924 he received the 2 year Normal diploma from Tri-State College.

He taught 5 years in the Helmer School and then accepted a school at Metz, Indiana. The urge to go on to school was met by attending Manchester College, North Manchester, Indiana. It was from this institution that he received the A.B. degree in Latin and Social Studies and the Administrative field. He taught at the Scott School, Van Buren Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, for three years, serving as principal, teacher, and coach. Eager for higher learning he entered Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, where he received the Masters degree in Education, with additional work toward the Doctors degree in Education. It was while attending Indiana University that he was elected a member of the Phi-Delta Kappa fraternity, a national and honorary fraternity organized for those students at-

taining high scholastic honors and likely to succeed in their chosen profession.

Depression days came along, finding him accepting the position as Principal and teacher in the Flint High School, Jackson Township, Steuben County. The next move was made to the Wolf Lake School in Noble County, as principal and teacher.

While teaching in the Helmer school he became acquainted with one of the high school lassies, then Ellen Margaret Sprankle, daughter of Warren and Ruth Sprankle, to whom he was united in marriage on April 3, 1926. To this union were born four children, namely: Margaret Jean, John Wayne, Don Albert, and Dan Warren. Don died at the age of 13, March 27, 1951, with rheumatic fever. Margaret Jean is the wife of Carl F. Stallman, Jr., M.D., and resides at Kendallville, Indiana. They have one son, Don Frederick. John and Dan are at home actively engaged in the farming operations of 390 acres, raising registered livestock, as well as general farm work.

In 1937 Wayne quit the teaching profession and came to the farm to live. In 1941 he bought the Silas Beigh farm north of Salem Center, where he continues to reside.

Wayne has always taken a keen interest in affairs of the Community, serving 8 years on the advisory board and at present is a member of the County Council.

His interests branched out from the local community and found him a member of the Masonic Lodge at Hudson, Indiana, The Order of the Eastern Star of Hudson, Indiana, and the White Shrine of Jerusalem, of Kendallville, Indiana. He has taken an active part and held offices in these various organizations.

Wayne was a teacher and High School Principal for 15 years.

### Biography of Rev. John Humfreys, D.D.

#### The Preacher Who Lived in a House By the Side of the Road

There is so much that is bad in the best of us  
And so much that is good in the worst of us  
That it doesn't behoove any of us  
To talk about the rest of us.

—John Humfreys' Creed.

Probably the one man whose life and character

influenced most the citizenship of Steuben County during the first half of the twentieth century, is



Dr. John Humfreys, D. D., active pastor of the First Congregational Church of Angola for more than two score years, and later its pastor emeritus. So general was the demand on his time for spiritual counsel and religious service that he was well called the "beloved pastor of Steuben County."

He was the son of Martin and Sarah Humfreys, born at Grimsbury, a suburb of the city of Banbury, Oxfordshire, May 17, 1864. His mother was an Episcopalian, his father favored Congregationalism. When John was six years of age a Methodist Sunday School was organized in a closed academy building half a block from his home. He was in this Sunday School until he was 16 years of age, when he was given an award for eleven years of unbroken attendance. This school made deep impressions, religiously, upon him.

His education was in St. Leonard's Episcopal School. Here he finished all grades and then joined the "training class" for the preparing of teachers for the day schools. At 18 years of age he was licensed as a lay preacher for service in public addresses and for sermons in village churches and chapels. He served as supply in both Methodist and Congregational village churches, now and then filling the pulpit of town churches.

During the last three years of study he was given special religious work in two fields for which he received sufficient pay by which he could make his living. One year was spent as religious visitor and worker in the poorer quarters of the city. Two years later he became assistant to the minister of a group of churches and often conducted the Sunday services, preaching twice each day.

Dr. Humfreys often related the trying experience which he survived in the critical examinations he underwent in his efforts to be properly accredited for the ministry. One of the chief criticisms was that he had been influenced by literature sent to him by his sister living in America, one of his critics boldly asserting, "We shall not and will not have any American theology preached in our pulpits." These difficulties were brought to an end when one of his critics said: "Dr. Farrar, the Queen's chaplain, announces that her Majesty (Queen Victoria) has finished the reading

of Dr. Smyth's book entitled, 'Old Faiths in New Light' and it has profoundly helped her faith." Within a few weeks, because of his five years of special study and practical church work, he found two openings, one as assistant in a church in Cape Colony, Africa, and one in Newfoundland, Great Britain's oldest Colony for work on its south-western coasts. On the advice of friends, he chose Newfoundland.

In October, 1886, he began his work among the fishermen's families in Placentia Bay. It was a trying two years; poverty, illiteracy, no social life. The men were away nearly all summer cod fishing and fishing in the great bay. At times it seemed as if only dogs, hard working women, unprovided-for children, and poor old folks, made up the settlements and the coast.

The people, however, Dr. Humfreys often said, were as kind and helpful as they could be. "Out of their little they gave much. Out of their seeming desolation, they now and then found no little joy." One effort succeeded finely. Nearly fifty percent of the people signed the Temperance Pledge and gladness came to much of the population, for drinking was the curse and menace of the community.

He was authorized by the government to manage several school boards, direct teachers whose terms were only of two months, and see that the welfare of the community was maintained. He could administer a bit of medicine, and order the destruction of ferocious dogs. The order to put out the life of a dog was a mistake, an error in judgment. When a dog was ordered shot it broke the heart of a lonely fisherman who seemed to love his dog even more than his family. The dog on the stormy sea or the rugged coast was his constant and loyal friend. The shooting of a dog always drove a nail in the preacher's coffin.

Later there came a man, heroic, courageous, capable, a fine physician, a skillful surgeon, who had gained a large experience with the fishing fleets and the men of the North Sea and who, by reason of his experience and ability, was given all necessary financial aid, boats, steam yachts, surgical means, and equipment, by business men of England. For years Sir Wilfred Grenfell, M.D., labored and did a marvelous work on the west coasts of the island and on the Labrador.

This vigorous experience undermined the preacher's physical and mental health. A capable



doctor and a good friend advised him to get to a warmer climate and to situations that were pleasanter, less trying. His salary was very small, never paid in money, always in quintals of fish.

Here again was another Providence. A friend said, "Why not go to the good old U.S.A.? Go see God's country anyway," and he gave him the name of a Michigan Congregational conference officer. The preacher took passage by steamship to Halifax, Nova Scotia, thence by rail to Michigan. In October, 1886, with only one gold coin in his pocket, he arrived in Kalamazoo, found the gentleman to whom he had been referred, and in one-half hour was given the pastorate of a small church in southern Michigan.

At the end of the year he became pastor of a Congregational church in Levingston County where, in October of the same year, a council of Congregational churches and ministers was held and his license to preach was changed to an ordination certificate. This began his ministry in the United States, which from that time was a delight to him. Soon after coming he sought out a college in which he could take preachers' special training. Taking his credits and standing to Calvin College, Cleveland, Ohio, he was given the standing admitting him to graduate work. After two years he was graduated with the B.D. degree cum laude, and was advised to stay as a graduate student, aiming at the M.A. degree. During the next two years a thesis was prepared entitled, "The Humanism of the Books," a review of the literature of the great nations of Asia and Europe. The thesis, finished, received much approval.

For some ten or twelve years he served on the Board of Trustees of Olivet College, Michigan, and for the same period taught in the summer institutes with always more than a hundred students. Olivet College bestowed upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

In 1896 his pastorate was in the East Grand Rapids church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he laid the foundation of what has become a great Congregational church. His work for six years is printed in the records of this church.

He was called to Angola to the First Congregational church as pastor in 1904, where he labored as active pastor for forty-four years, and as pastor emeritus for later years. He shared his parish

work with the superintendency of the Indiana Congregational Christian Conference for several years. In this work he gained the good will and the trust of more than two hundred churches.

In 1894 he married Miss Christine Kreuter, librarian at the Hackley Public Library, Muskegon, Michigan. Her special work was in cataloging foreign books, in which she was very efficient. She was a loving and loyal companion. She passed away May 19, 1947, of heart trouble, deeply mourned by a multitude of friends. Her home and residence was given to the congregation for a parsonage, as a monument to her memory.

After a brief period of time following Mrs. Humfreys' death, Dr. Humfreys was invited to the home of her sister, Mrs. Hermine Nolan, where loving and capable care has since been accorded him, with the assistance of a small annual token of the gratitude which the Angola church holds for him. In these later years he has often served there as pulpit supply and counsellor for churches in the vicinity of Muskegon.

Several years after their occupancy of the parsonage home on North Washington Street, Dr. Humfreys converted an old building located there, relict of the horse and buggy days, into a study and retreat, in which he could confer with the increasing number of people who came to him for counsel and guidance. Many of the troubles of the community were here resolved, and here scores of marriages were solemnized.

When time and elements wrought havoc upon the structure, his friends replaced the "study" with a miniature stone chapel of Gothic lines, as a "Humfreys' Memorial" and the memory of the beloved pastor is here perpetuated by Christian service provided for all who call.

Editor's note: This tribute was prepared by Raymond E. Willis, a half-century friend of Dr. Humfreys, and is here inserted under the sponsorship of a friend, David C. Jordan. The material facts related were taken from an autobiography prepared by Dr. Humfreys shortly after he closed his active ministry in Angola.

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### Biography of H. Earl Husselman

H. Earl Husselman was born in Grant Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, March 31st, 1891,

the son of Adam and Amy (McCague) Husselman.



Mr. Husselman has been identified with the farming community of Grant Township for many years and has been an active factor therein for the past twenty years. The history of the Husselman family in America goes back to the Revolutionary War, when George Husselman, a native of Hessia, and a soldier in the Hessian Army, came to America to help the British fight the American Colonists. He was taken prisoner by the Americans at the battle of Trenton and was sent to Lexington, New York, where he learned why the colonists were fighting the mother country. Becoming convinced of the justice of their cause, he took the oath of

allegiance to the colonies, joined the American Army and became a member of the 8th Virginia regiment and fought with George Washington until the end of the war. His name, when he came to this country, was Yorrick Healshilman, which he changed to George Husselman, probably to hide his identity from the British. After the war was over he married and settled in Virginia and later Pennsylvania, and finally came to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1814, where he died in 1826.

The descendants of George Husselman established themselves in the wilds of DeKalb County 116 years ago. Mr. H. Earl Husselman owns a tract of land that his grandfather acquired in 1844.

In January 1919, H. Earl Husselman was united in marriage to Delia Miller, daughter of Henry and Jenora (Spindler) Miller, of Fairfield Township, DeKalb County, Indiana. To this union three children were born, namely: Lloyd, who married Ellen Rosenberry; Bonnie, who married Martin Christlieb (the Christliebs reside at Nevada Mills, Steuben County); and Betty, who is the wife of Robert Dilgard.

Lloyd works with his father on the farm and is employed part time at the Farm Bureau at Auburn. They have one daughter, Su Ann, born Dec. 30, 1954. Bonnie's husband works at a service station at Orland, Indiana. They have two children, Marlene, 13, and Tommy, 10 years of age. The children attend school at Orland.

Betty is married to Robert Dilgard. They own and operate their own farm and Mr. Dilgard also works at the Auburn Rubber Company.

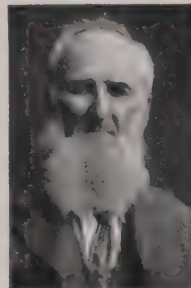
Mr. Husselman has been very active in public affairs, having served on the Fair Board for 10 years previous to being elected President of the Fair Association in 1952 and re-elected in 1953. He has become well known over northeastern Indiana. He is politically a Republican and served as precinct committeeman for 14 years. On November 2nd, 1954, he was elected County Commissioner of DeKalb County.

Mr. Husselman is fraternally a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and Mrs. Husselman are members of the Christian Church at Auburn.

Mr. Husselman is considered an authority on local history, having written many articles on pioneer days. He is also a member of the Indiana Historical Society. Although not a resident of Steuben County, Mr. Husselman has been closely associated with the people of the county for many years.

### Biography of George W. Ireland

George Washington Ireland was born June 2, 1841, to King R. and Rhoda Ireland. His grandfather, Gilbert Ireland, came from New York State to Steuben County in 1837 and purchased 320 acres of land just west of Angola. Part of this property is now known as the Clark Nichols farm. Gilbert Ireland was buried on his farm, the first to be buried in what is now known as the Crockett Hill Cemetery.



On March 28, 1864, George W. Ireland was married to Mary Ann Gochenour, who came to Steuben County at a very early age from Wayne County, Ohio. To them were born four children: Mary Elizabeth Ireland Baker (1865-1938), Evalenah Ireland Roberts (1867-1916), Fred A. Ireland (1869-1916), and George Franklin Ireland (known as Frank Ireland) (1871-1933). The family of Frank and Ella (nee Spangle) Ireland is the only one descended from Gilbert Ireland to perpetuate the family name. Their three children are: Cecil, part-time farmer and truck driver; Ana, public school teacher and Federal Government educational training officer; Russell, farmer.



Cecil has one son, Dale, and two grandchildren, James and Catherine. Russell has two sons, Don and Fred, and one grandchild, Kay, daughter of Don Ireland.

George W. Ireland spent his entire life in Steuben County. He was a farmer. In 1868 he purchased land about five and one-half miles northwest of Angola, cleared space for a home, and built a log house in which he lived until the death of his wife in 1909. In his later years he sold the farm, which he had cleared and improved, to his son Frank who had built a home a short distance from the original home site. A small home was built for him (George W. Ireland) adjacent to his son's home and he lived there until his death in 1916. The farm is still the home of Mrs. Frank Ireland and son, Cecil Ireland.

He was a religious man, and a regular church attendant, although he was not a member of any church. He usually attended the Methodist Church in Flint during his later years—driving his favorite old gray horse and taking one or two of his grandchildren to Church and Sunday School.

He was handy with simple carpentry and much of the furniture used in the log house was built by him. He was also a typical Hoosier "whittler" and many of the first utensils used in the home were carved or whittled out—churns, butter bowls, ladders, dippers, food choppers, etc. Bows of seasoned hickory and arrows of hard oak were always made for his grandchildren scaled to their ages and abilities. He had a set of cobbler tools with which he made and mended the pegged boots worn by farmers of that early period. Cloth was woven in the home and candles were made there.

He was also greatly interested in gardening. He tried to grow—and usually with considerable success—various garden crops which were new or not generally grown in this area. For example, he grew peanuts, sweet potatoes, artichokes, asparagus, and many herbs, including dill and hops. He grew many kinds of berries, grapes, and fruits, and kept an accurate record of the kinds of pear, cherry, plum, apple, and other fruit trees grown.

Mr. Ireland's ancestors in England were coopers by trade. The name "Ireland" is not Irish as many believe, rather it is English. It was originally "de Yrelande"—Norman French. Some of the de Yrelandes went to England in 1066 with William the Conqueror. They settled outside Manchester, England. The name was anglicized by changing the y

to an i and dropping the final e. The first Ireland to come to America was a John Ireland who settled on what is now known as Washington Square in New York.

### Biography of Rev. John E. Jones

Among the pastors now serving in Steuben County, Rev. John E. Jones of the Salem Center Presbyterian Church has the distinction of having



ministered to his church and community the greatest number of years of any pastor—over 31 years. In the Presbytery of Wabash River, (formerly the Fort Wayne Presby-

tery) he is recognized for the same unusual record. He has twice served as moderator of the Presbytery.

John E. Jones, the second son of John D. and Mary Breese Jones, was born June 21, 1885, in Randolph Township, Columbia County, Wisconsin. The maternal grandparents came from Wales in 1845 and his father came with his parents from Wales in 1848. Both families came to Wisconsin where they took an active part in the establishing of the Welsh community and Welsh churches.

In the school of Cambria, Wisconsin, John E. Jones received his early education, and was graduated from the High School there. He was also graduated from Ripon College in Wisconsin, and McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. He was then called to be the stated supply of the Schneider and Lake Prairie Presbyterian Churches in Lake County, Indiana. In 1917 Rev. Jones resigned from these churches to accept a call in the Presbyterian Churches at Waterloo and Salem Center, Indiana. In June of 1918 he answered his country's call to become a war secretary for the Y. M. C. A.

After receiving his "Y" training at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, and Columbia University in New York City, Rev. Jones was shipped with other volunteers to South Hampton, England, and hence to Le Havre, France. In December 1918, he was assigned to serve as "Y" secretary with the 26th Division, located near Chaumont, France. This division was

one of the first units sent to participate in the First World War.

When the 26th Division departed for the United States, Rev. Jones was assigned to serve with the 36th Division at Tonnere, France. Upon completion of this assignment he was given a two weeks leave, thence journeying through southern France, visiting many historical places, including Lyons, Marseilles, and Monte Carlo, returning to La Mans by way of the Maritime Alps.

While waiting for transportation home, he served for a brief time at an evacuation camp at Saint Malo, France. While there, he was given the opportunity to visit St. Michael and other historical places.

In July, 1919, Rev. Jones returned to New York City and was released from service as Y. M. C. A. Secretary.

He began his second pastorate at the Salem Center Presbyterian Church in November of 1919, and served there until November of 1924. January 17, 1925, he became pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Farmersburg, Indiana, continuing there until July, 1928.

On August 5, 1925, John E. Jones was married to Jane A. Williams. She was born in South Dakota June 3, 1896, the daughter of Humphrey and Sara Williams. Jane Jones received her elementary and high school education in the schools of Wales, and Waukesha, Wisconsin. In 1924 she was graduated from the Presbyterian College of Christian Education in Chicago, and served as a church secretary in Wilmette, Illinois.

By urgent request of the Salem Center Church, in September 1928, Rev. Jones returned to serve the church, accompanied by Mrs. Jones.

A little four year old girl, Betty Jean, came to live in the Jones home in 1934, and the next year was legally adopted by Rev. and Mrs. Jones. Betty has received her degree in education from Ball State Teachers College and is following the teaching profession.

Since 1928 Rev. and Mrs. Jones have worked faithfully in building a greater church and better community. Their interests and energies have been exercised in worthwhile and educational activities of the township and county. Mrs. Jones has been an organizer, advisor, and teacher for many of the best organizations in the community. She has taken an active part in the Ft. Wayne Presbyterial and has participated in official duties,

serving four years as president and four years as corresponding secretary.

Rev. Jones has been associated with four and five generations of some families. Rev. and Mrs. Jones have given their time, understandingly and with sympathy in troubled hours, and have enjoyed the social life of a rural community. Their Christian living and influence have made a strong imprint in the Salem Church and Community.

### Biography of Earl D. Kaufman

Earl D. Kaufman, the only son of Alexander and Arvilla (Tasker) Kaufman, was born on January 5, 1891, in Scott Township. There were also two

girls in the family: Ruby, the eldest, now Mrs. Earl Hill of Jackson, Michigan; and Ursie, the youngest, now Mrs. Roy Sellinger of Angola, Indiana.



At an early age Mr. Kaufman became an apprentice carpenter under his maternal grandfather, Mr. Thomas Tasker, who was engaged in the construction of barns in the northern part of Steuben County. Many of the structures are still being used and are in a good state of repair. It was while so engaged that Earl became an exacting and efficient carpenter.

On August 23, 1913, he married Caryl Smith, the youngest daughter of Charles D. and Clara (McElheinie) Smith. On October 20, 1917, this marriage was blessed with the birth of a son, Mark D., the only child.

After their marriage they lived on the farm, owned by Mrs. Kaufman's father, east of Fremont, where Earl engaged in farming with his father-in-law, Mr. Smith. Later the Kaufmans moved to Fremont where he was employed at the Sidel and Doster Bakery.

In 1928 they built a new home near the site of the birthplace of Mrs. Kaufman, and moved there to engage in farming. This has been their home since that time. Earl has always been interested in the betterment of conditions for the farmer and was for some time very active in the programs of the Department of Agriculture at the local level.

Nineteen years ago, in 1935, he was chosen as a director in the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Steuben County, a position which he still holds. In this position he has strengthened his



reputation for fair dealing and just consideration for his fellow men.

Early in his life he chose the Democratic party for his support and he has been active in its ranks continuously. At present he is a precinct committeeman from Fremont Township in the party.

The only descendants of Mr. Kaufman are his only son, Mark, and the only grandchild, Danny Charles, born January 20, 1940. However, in his many contacts in the public life he led, he has made a host of friends, attesting to his honesty and integrity.

At present the Kaufmans live in the pleasant surroundings of their farm home east of Fremont near Clear Lake. However, due to health conditions, Mr. Kaufman is retired from active duties except for his directorship in the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company.

### Biography of Ernest D. Kemery

Ernest D. Kemery was born September 30, 1877, the son of John A. Kemery (1832-1919) and Roena (Robins) Kemery (1847-1918). His parents were united in marriage April 5, 1868.



Ernest Kemery served his country as a private in Company H. 157 of the Indiana Infantry in the Spanish American War from 1898 to 1899. After his discharge from service, he organized the National Guards of Steuben County and was made a Captain. In 1905 he resigned due to the fact that he

was leaving the States to go to Old Mexico.

On April 6, 1904, he was married to Nina Reader, daughter of William P. Reader (1854-1930) and Inez (Farley) Reader (1854-1940). Her parents were married May 8, 1877.

After returning from Mexico they located in Huntington, Indiana, where he worked on a Traction line until 1913 when, after he was badly injured, they came back to Angola. At the time of his accident he received 33,000 volts of electricity, the entire current passing through his body. His burns were very severe. On his return to Angola he started the Kemery Furniture Store but sold this business in 1931. In 1935 Mr. Kemery and Mr. Theodore Hopkins opened the K. & H. Shoe Store, Mr. Kemery later buying out Mr. Hopkins' share. He sold this business in 1937 to Mr. Lundy Kyles.

Ernest Kemery was a member of the Elks and

Masonic Lodges, was a Charter member of the Angola Rotary Club, having had 33½ years of perfect attendance, and was extremely devoted and loyal to Rotary. He was a Republican during his entire lifetime.

Ernest died July 9, 1953, in Angola, Indiana.

### Biography of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Kinsey

Lee Kinsey, the son of James and Emaline Cornelia Letts Kinsey, was born May 14, 1908, at Fremont. On June 19, 1929, he was united in marriage with Mary Eleanor Dean, who was born August 23, 1908, at Renwick, Iowa, the daughter of Fairfield and Dora Dean. To this union were born two daughters: Nancy Lee Kinsey, who was born June 23, 1935. She is now a Junior at Purdue University, majoring in Physical Education. She is a member of Phi Mu Sorority, Women's Athletic Association, Sportswomen Honorary, and Intermural Manager for 1955-1956; Deanna Sue Kinsey, who was born June 3, 1943, and is now in the seventh grade at the Fremont School. She is a member of the Fremont Band and of the 4-H Club.

Mr. Kinsey has been engaged in business at the Kinsey Chevrolet Sales and Service in Fremont since 1931.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Kinsey have been active in the civic life of Fremont. Mr. Kinsey is a former member of the Town Board and served as President of the Board, as a member of the Commercial Club, and a member of the Fremont Fire Department for several years. Mary Kinsey is a charter member of the Minerva Club and Town & Country Club. The Kinseys are active members of the Fremont Methodist Church and Mr. Kinsey has served as a member of the Board of Trustees for a number of years. Mary Kinsey has taught a Kindergarten class in the Methodist Church for several years.

They have lived in their own home in Fremont since 1937 and also have had a summer home at Nipigon Beach at Lake George since 1950.

### Biography of Knight L. Kissinger, M.D.

Knight L. Kissinger, oldest son of Burton and Myrtle Kissinger, was born in Auburn, Indiana, December 11, 1906.

When he was 8 years of age, his father purchased a drug store at Hamilton, Indiana, and he grew up there, graduating from Hamilton High School in 1924.

The following year he attended normal school at Tri State College, and during the succeeding four years taught elementary school at Hamilton, and one year of that time, at Angola.

In the fall of 1929, he enrolled as a pre-law student at the University of Michigan. In 1931 he was called home by the death of his father, at which time he resumed teaching. He subsequently acquired an AB degree from Manchester College in 1934, and taught High School one year at Metz and one year at Hamilton. He entered Indiana University School of Medicine in 1936, graduating with an MD degree in June, 1940.

After his internship at Indianapolis City Hospital, Dr. Kissinger came to Angola to practice in July, 1941, occupying the office of the late Dr. S. S. Frazier.

In August, 1942, he entered the Armed Service, spending 32 months in the South Pacific Area. He was separated from the service in December of 1945 with the rank of Major, and returning to Angola, joined Dr. L. L. Eberhart as partner in the proposed operation of the newly constructed Elmhurst Hospital, which was opened in 1948. After the death of Dr. Eberhart in January of 1949, Dr. Kissinger disposed of his interest in the Hospital to a non-profit corporation organized to continue operation of the Hospital, but continued as tenant of Hospital Corporation, occupying an office in the Hospital Building. He was joined in July, 1949, by his present partner in medical practice, Dr. John J. Hartman.

Dr. Kissinger has one brother, Ronald E. Kissinger, of Hillsdale, Michigan. Their widowed Mother still lives at Hamilton, Indiana. Dr. Kissinger has never married.

### Biography of William Henry Lane, M.D.

Dr. William Henry Lane was born on October 5, 1866, at Nashville, Illinois, the southern section known as "Little Egypt." His father emigrated from Germany in 1850 and fought in our Civil War from 1861 to 1865. His mother came from North Carolina of sturdy pioneer parents who came to Soussa, Illinois, in "Covered Wagon" days.



Dr. Lane was from a family of five children. In his early years he attended a private school for

boys, known as Dr. Clark's College, at Irvington, Illinois. He later attended Dr. Stone's College at Old Du Quoin, Illinois. At the completion of his training, Dr. Lane entered Rush Medical College in Chicago in the fall of 1886. In the summer of 1888 he came to Angola and was associated with Dr. H. D. Wood; returning to Rush Medical College in the fall to complete his last year of studies in medicine.

Upon graduation in 1889 Dr. Lane returned to Angola and was again associated with Dr. Wood for over 2 years.

On February 26, 1890, Dr. Lane married Milla Gates, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Gates. After fifty-five harmonious years of marriage, Milla passed away on March 27, 1945. They have a surviving daughter, a talented one, Altina Lane, who distinguished herself some years ago by a thrilling rescue from drowning, of the late Alexander Johnson, a large man.

Dr. Lane spent his life serving Angola and the surrounding community. He served many years as County or City Health Officer, serving Angola in that capacity at this time. He spent a number of years in France during the First World War. He is by nature cautious, sensitive and modest; he always has been exceedingly conscientious in the care of his patients.

(Dr. Lane passed away at the Cameron Hospital in Angola on March 2, 1955).

### Biography of Calvin LeRoy Lash

Calvin LeRoy Lash, the son of James and Julia Ann Lash, was born in Florence Township, Williams County, Ohio, on Independence Day, July 4, 1861.



He was the fourth child in this sturdy pioneer family of three sons and three daughters, and grew to young manhood on the one hundred sixty acre farm cleared by his father.

His brothers were Elmer and Clement Lash, and his sisters were Mesdames Jennie Stuller, Olive Dargitz, and Edith Wertz.

He acquired his education in the Florence Township District School nearest his home, and the Edon High School.

On November 8, 1884, he was married to Miss



Cora Dell Shell and lived for a short time in Edon, Ohio.

They soon bought a one hundred acre farm one half mile north of Alvarado, in section 18, Richland Township, Steuben County, Indiana, where he was an unusually successful farmer until March, 1905, when the family moved to Angola.

This move was occasioned by the fact that Mr. Lash was elected President and Manager of the Steuben County Farmers' Telephone Company which Company he headed until it was sold to, and consolidated with, The Taylor Telephone Company.

He was then employed for twenty years as clerk and baggage agent at the New York Central station in Angola where he was courteous and conscientious in the discharge of his duties until the day of his death, August 5, 1928.

Mr. Lash was born and raised in the Methodist faith. His political faith was Democratic.

He had a deep sense of fraternalism and brotherhood. He was a member of Angola Lodge No. 236, Free and Accepted Masons, and a charter member of Hamilton Knights of Pythias Lodge No. 228.

He had one daughter, Edna Lugenia Thomas, of Arlington, Virginia, widow of the late Harvey Benjamin Thomas, who passed away in 1949, a World War I Veteran and retired Federal Employee.

His family home, from 1905 until his demise, was at 302 South West Street in Angola. He is buried in the family plot in the Edon Cemetery, Edon, Ohio.

### Biography of Cora Dell Shell Lash

Cora Dell Shell, only child of Captain George W. Shell, and Lugenia Ireland Shell, was born in Scipio Township, Allen County, Indiana, May 27, 1866.



When she was three and one-half years of age her father, Captain Shell, Company "D", 44th Indiana Regiment Volunteer Infantry, died of wounds received at Shiloh and Chickamauga during the Civil War.

Her mother, Lugenia Ireland Shell-Stuller, was widowed the second time within a few years and her early life was spent in Edon, Ohio, and on her mother's farm three quarters of a mile south of Alvarado,

section 19, Richland Township, Steuben County, Indiana.

She attended the Old Academy School at Alvarado and the Edon High School. At the latter, from among her classmates, sprang the bond of friendship between Calvin Lash and herself, which culminated in their marriage on November 8, 1884.

The first year of their married life was spent in Edon, Ohio. Then they bought a farm one half mile north of Alvarado, Richland Township, Steuben County, Indiana, where they lived for nearly twenty years, when they moved to Angola.

Mrs. Lash was a charter member of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Angola, and served on its Board of Directors for many years. She was also a member of the Mother Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts. She applied and lived the principles of her religion to her highest understanding.

Her daughter is Edna Lugenia Thomas, of Arlington, Virginia.

Mrs. Lash and daughter are descended from one of the first families of America, their maternal immigrant ancestor, John May, having come in the year 1640 from Mayfield, Sussex County, England, to Roxbury, Massachusetts. Two Revolutionary ancestors, Captain Nehemiah May, whose name often appears in the early records of Holland, Massachusetts, and his son, Ezra May, gave unfailing loyal service in assisting in the establishment of American independence during the war of the Revolution, 1775-1783.

She was a member of Samuel Gorton Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D. C.

After the death of Mr. Lash, in 1928, she moved from the home at 302 South West Street, where they had lived since 1905, to the smaller house next door, at 300 South West Street, where she resided until the fall of 1941, when she moved to Arlington, Virginia, to live in her daughter's home.

She passed on July 5, 1945.

She is buried in the family plot in the Edon Cemetery, Edon, Ohio.

### Biography of Mary E. Mains

Mary E. Mains, daughter of David and Florence Shipe, was born June 26, 1898, in a sod house, in Thames, Kansas. She was one of four children, her brothers being Jasper, Harry, and Charlie.

When she was 4 years old, the family moved to

Indiana, living in Hudson of Steuben County a short time, then moving on to a farm in Fairfield Township, DeKalb County, where she lived until she was married.

She attended grade school at Fairfield, and High School at Ashley, Indiana, attended Church and Sunday School and played the organ for some time.

On Easter Sunday, April 8, 1917, she was married to Elwood Estray Mains by the minister of the M. E. Church. To this union were born three sons and one daughter, namely: Jay, Robert, David, and Mary June. Jay married Fay Randol. They have two girls and two boys and live on a farm near LaGrange. Robert married Betty Stroh and they are the parents of three girls and one boy and live in Angola. David married May Randol and they live on a farm near LaGrange, and have two sons. Mary June married Roscoe Light and they have two girls and two boys. They live on a rural route out of Angola. Mrs. Mains has 14 grandchildren.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Mains lived at Stroh, Indiana, for 4 years, then moved to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., in 1921, where they remained until 1929. While there they went through two big hurricanes, one in 1926 and the other in 1928, in which they lost everything they had. While in Florida, in the year of 1924, she joined the Order of Eastern Star.

In April of 1929, they came back to Indiana, settling once more in Stroh where they resided until 1941, Mr. Mains passing away in July of that year. From there, Mrs. Mains moved to a farm near Kendallville, where she lived for one year. She purchased a home in Angola and moved there in 1943. During the war she worked at the Bowser Company but since June of 1946 she has been employed at the Weatherhead Factory.

Mrs. Mains is a charter member of the Stroh Home Economic Club since June, 1932. She is a member of "Women of the Moose" and a charter member of Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary, American Legion Auxiliary, the Rebekah Lodge, and a member of the first Christian Church of Angola.

### Biography of George B. Maxton

George B. Maxton lived in Steuben County all but his first four years. He led a quiet but ex-

ceedingly busy and useful life. "Daddy," as he was known to all his grandchildren, was, in a sense, a pioneer of the modern age. A small boy at the time of Lincoln, he saw an undeveloped wilderness grow to its present state. His keen memory made it possible for him to relate interesting stories which will long be remembered by his friends.



Mr. Maxton, a son of John and Christina (Ralston) Maxton, was born in Richland County, Ohio, August 30, 1856. His parents were born in Pennsylvania; his father, October 22, 1822, and his mother, December 19, 1826. His grandparents, John and Anna (Clark) Maxton, spent most of their lives in Green County, Ohio.

John and Christina Maxton brought their family to Otsego Township, April 1, 1860, and settled on a farm of 141¾ acres. They cleared much of this land, put up some good buildings, saw his efforts prosper, and his children grow to useful manhood and womanhood. He died January 2, 1900; and his wife passed away October 20, 1902. The children were: Mrs. Jane Burch, Mrs. Lydia Gilbert, Mrs. Martha Beebe, George B., Mrs. Mary Tasker, Mrs. Anna Sheffler, and Joseph, who died in infancy.

George B. Maxton grew up on the farm homestead, acquired a common school education and as a boy assisted his father in clearing more land for fields and tending the fields already in cultivation. father's death became proprietor of a farm that grew with splendid improvements and great productiveness. Mr. Maxton was a Democrat, and was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias.

In 1880 he married Miss Sarah Catherine Tingler. She was born in Hancock County, Ohio, May 25, 1858, and at the age of four came with her parents, Michael and Nellie Tingler, to Steuben County, and settled in Otsego Township. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Maxton—Hugh and Nellie. Hugh was born May 16, 1881, and was educated in the common schools. For many years he assumed the greater responsibilities of managing his father's farm and is now the proprietor. He married Miss Georgia Boyles, and their five children are: Caroll, Denver, Lewis, Ruth, and Mahlon. The daughter Nellie was born June 29, 1883, and was educated in the common schools. She is the wife



of Roy Orewiler, a son of Adam Orewiler, of Steuben County. Two sons comprise the family of Mr. and Mrs. Orewiler; their names are Russell and Keith.

Mr. Maxton was a lover of the outdoors, hunting and fishing his hobbies, and he always wanted to share this sport with his grandchildren and friends. In 1948 when he was 92, he went deer hunting in Canada with two of his grandsons. His competitive spirit made him determined to bag more game than his companions, which he did.

December 23, 1951, Mr. Maxton died at the age of 95. In addition to his son and daughter, he was survived by seven grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

### Biography of Albert A. Metzger

Albert A. Metzger, son of Jacob and Mary Jane Metzger, who was born April 4th, 1866, in Pleasant Township and died October 13, 1912, in the same Township where he had lived his entire life.

He was married in 1891 to Allie Tingley of Williams County, Ohio. She passed away in 1899. They had one son, G. J. (Ted) Metzger, born in 1896, who now lives in Cincinnati, Ohio. After Mrs. Metzger's death, Mr. Metzger and his son resided with his grandparents, the Jacob Metzgers.

He attended Angola High School and was one of the first commercial graduates of Tri-State College.

He was affiliated with the Odd Fellow Lodge from which he derived a great deal of his pleasure in life. He was an honest hard working man, and had a great many friends.

Engaged for many years in the plastering and contracting business, Mr. Metzger was much respected for his fine workmanship and application to business. With his father, Jacob, he plastered the Hendry Hotel. He also built the Braun and Dole Blocks and an addition to the I.O.O.F. Building. He built the first group of Hendry Flats and the Golden Garage.

A large percentage of the homes in Angola, up to the year of 1912, was plastered by the Metzger family. He followed this trade which was started by Adam Metzger who came to the Angola area from Harrisburg, Pa., by ox team in 1844. Adam was Albert's grandfather.

Albert Metzger was killed in Chicago in 1912, while working for the old Lake Shore Railroad.

### Biography of Ray G. Miller

Ray Gurtner Miller, son of Ira V. and Harriet (Gurtner) Miller, was born May 14, 1905, and lived most of his life in Steuben County. He was 47 years of age at the time of his death.



Ray was married September 4, 1926, to Mildred G. Trumbull of Vicksburg, Michigan, and to this marriage were born four children, namely: Norma, now Mrs. James L. Wisner; Jean, who is Mrs. Mike P. Pristas, Jerry Lee Miller (deceased); and Sharon, now 11 years of age, who lives at home.

Ray's parents, Ira V. and Harriet (Gurtner) Miller (his mother died many years ago) spent most of their married life in LaGrange and Steuben Counties. His father, who is now 85 years old, lives here in Angola.

Ray was the third child of a family of four, the others being: Mildred, now Mrs. Earl D. Whitacre of Ft. Wayne, Indiana; Wayne Miller of Toledo, Ohio; and Dawson H. Miller of Angola, who is employed by the Sheets Oil Company, where Ray was employed at the time of his death. Ray was a graduate of Salem Center High School. After his marriage they moved to a farm in Steuben County, where they lived for many years. In July of 1944 they lost all of their cattle by lightning, so had a farm sale and moved to Angola. It was shortly after this that Ray became associated with the Sheets Oil Company.

Three months prior to Ray's passing, his son-in-law, Harland French, Jr., husband of Norma, was killed by a train at Griffith, Indiana, leaving her with three small children. On April 16th, 1954, Norma married James Wisner of Metz. They have one daughter, Julie Kaye Wisner, born July 18, 1955. He is employed on the Angola Police Force and they make their home here in Angola. The French children are: Linda Lee, 9 years of age; Alana, 7; and Steven Harland, who is 6 years of age.

Jean, Ray's second daughter, married Mike P. Pristas, who is employed at the Angola Post Office. Their children are: Teresa Lynn, 7; Michael Craig who is 3; Jeanne Rae, 2; and Patty Ellen, who is 4 months old at this writing.

Sharon, Ray's youngest daughter, lives at Pleasant Lake with her mother, who is now Mrs. D.

C. Anstett. Sharon attends the Pleasant Lake School.

Ray was well known throughout Steuben County, as well as more distant points, due to his travels while employed as a delivery salesman for the Sheets Oil Company. He was a conscientious worker, being held in high esteem by his business associates, and had many friends outside of his work. His 12 year old son, Jerry, who at the time of his death was a 6th grade pupil in the Angola School, and also a carrier for the News-Sentinel, made many friends throughout his brief life and is sadly missed by his family and school-mates. Both Ray and Jerry met death in a fatal accident on the morning of June 11th, 1952.

### Biography of Honorable James A. Moody

James A. Moody, son of Benjamin and Lydia Moody, was born in Angola, Indiana, November 12, 1867.

He spent his childhood and youth in Angola, making preparations for his life's work in the public schools and Tri State College from which he was graduated in the classical course.

He was united in marriage with Miss Alice V. Sowle, of Angola, December 23, 1897. For thirty-nine years theirs was a happy home, radiating a Christian influence throughout the community.

He began teaching in the rural schools when only eighteen and had students older and larger than himself. Later, as principal and superintendent of high schools, he taught at Mt. Etna, Fortville, and Ashley, Indiana; at Melbourn, Ohio, at Newkirk, Oklahoma, and at Atlanta, Indiana. In 1910, he moved his family to the farm in York Township where he resided until his death.

He was a devoted member and an elder in the North Scott Christian Church. He taught a young people's class continuously there for 23 years.

On moving to the farm he used scientific methods, having won medals for producing over 100 bushels of corn to the acre. He bought the first combine used in the county. He was active in the organization of the Farm Bureau in Steuben County, and served a year as their president.

Mr. Moody was twice elected to the General Assembly of Indiana. He was also director and secretary of the Federal Savings and Loan Association in Angola, and was called to active management of that institution.

He loved the truth supremely. His character was built on the foundation principles of honesty and integrity. He had an abiding faith in the divine inspiration of the Bible as God's revelation to man and in the risen Christ as his personal Saviour. He had the courage of his convictions and he "stood four square to every wind that blew."

His wife, Mrs. Alice Moody, resides at 412 W. Broad Street, here in Angola. His daughter, Mrs. Bernice Moody Horrall, lives in Chicago, Illinois, and his son Preston lives on the home farm. His five grandchildren are: Louise and Ross Horrall, and Orville, Janyce Ann, and Bruce Moody.

Mr. Moody passed away at the Cameron Hospital in Angola, January 5, 1937. He was 69 years of age.

### Biography of Harvey W. Morley

(This Biography was not prepared by the Publisher)

Harvey Warren Chase Morley (1876-19 ), publisher of this Steuben County History, has been a one-man chamber of commerce for Angola and Steuben County almost from the day in 1908 when he arrived in Angola to become owner, editor, and publisher of the Angola Herald.

In co-operation with other public-spirited citizens, he has long been active in dozens of civic projects for the betterment of Angola and Steuben County. These projects ranged from the securing of Pokagon State Park to the organization and construction of the Lake James Golf Course. At the same time he has been active in other organizations and in 1913 was founder of the Angola Rotary Club. He served as president of the club for the first six years of its existence, and was recently unanimously chosen by the Club as its President Emeritus.

During two World Wars, Mr. Morley was active in the civilian war effort serving as chairman of the County War Chest; chairman of the Four-minute Men; chairman of the speakers bureau in Liberty Loan drives; chairman for many years of the American Red Cross; member of the County Defense Council; chairman of the War Savings Stamp Committee; and many other wartime home front activities.

Possessed of an unusual talent for organizing, Mr. Morley was instrumental in starting many



businesses. Some, such as the First Federal Savings & Loan Association and the Tri-State Improvement Company, remain as active institutions in the community.

A militant Democrat, Harvey Morley has been active in politics for nearly fifty years and served as Democratic County Chairman during much of that time. He was often a delegate to state conventions and was twice a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Congress in this district. He was manager for some time of the Steuben County License Bureau and has held various posts in state government, the most recent of which was Director of Public Relations for the State Highway Commission in 1951-52.

Mr. Morley has an infinite capacity for friendship, and numbers among his acquaintances thousands over the state and nation, including scores of great and near-great, with many of whom he carries on extensive correspondence. But his chief interest is in hundreds of friends in Angola and Steuben County.

Mr. Morley received national publicity on his "neckties for Europe" project following World War II. After a suggestion in his column published in The Angola Herald that discarded neckties be sent to civilian war victims in Europe to brighten up their drab clothing, thousands of neckties came from all over the United States, and some 47,000 were shipped overseas.

A veteran of the newspaper business—he founded the Grant (Michigan) Independent in 1898—he operated The Angola Herald from 1908 to 1925. At that time the Steuben Printing Company was formed by Mr. Morley, Raymond E. Willis, Edward D. Willis, and others. This company now publishes The Angola Herald, The Steuben Republican, and does an extensive job printing business. Mr. Morley is vice-president of the firm and has continued to serve as editor of The Herald.

Harvey Morley, son of Jasper and Lucelia Morley, was born in Marshall, Michigan, on February 26, 1876. One of five children, he married Edna Bonner Cox on December 24, 1900. Mrs. Morley died in 1931. They had three children: Bayne Alvord, Fred Warren, and Esther Eliza.

parents are Roscoe and Lola (Casebeer) Munger. His childhood was spent pleasantly in Nevada Mills around the old mill and the headwaters of the Fawn River. His grade school education took place in the one room brick schoolhouse in the village, and his high school education took place in the Orland High School from which he was graduated in 1935. Two years followed in Manchester College, which was a two year Normal college, from which he was graduated in 1937 qualified to teach in elementary schools from grades one to eight. While at Manchester College the association with the college president, Otho Winger, afforded many happy hours of study, conversation, and field trips along the Eel and Miami rivers exploring old Indian camp and battle sites. Mr. Winger was a well known authority on the Indians and early pioneers. This knowledge proved very valuable later on in lecturing, displaying Indian material, and writing articles for publication as well as for the work with the Potawatomi Museum.

Lynn joined the U. S. Navy on January 5, 1939, and in December 1941, was in the medical department at Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, when the Japanese sneak attack took place. He worked for weeks among the casualties and received the Presidential Unit Citation along with the other members of his unit for outstanding work with the wounded after the attack. He was transferred to the European Theatre in 1943 and there served on a destroyer escort, convoying ships and searching for submarines in the Mediterranean Sea. In 1941 he was transferred to a mine sweeper and saw duty along the coastal waters of South America. He was the only survivor of the Pearl Harbor disaster in Steuben County.

In 1944 Lynn married Miss Virginia Connor of Boston, Massachusetts. They have a son, Frederick Stanley, born in 1945. In 1945 Lynn was discharged from the navy at Great Lakes, Illinois, and went directly into business in the Munger's Riverside Nursery. He has since been very active in Archaeological and Anthropological work and is well known in these groups throughout the United States. He is one of the founders of the Potawatomi Museum at Pokagon State Park and has been associated with the Museum, acting as the curator since its beginning.

### Biography of Lynn Murray Munger

Lynn Murray Munger was born on May 24, 1918, in Nevada Mills, Steuben County, Indiana. His

↳ Lynn (M) v.elda Jane Inman July 10, 1954 + had

4 children: Cheryl 1-24-1955; Reba 11-7-1956

Clayton 9-24-1959

### Biography of Glen L. Myers

Glen L. Myers, son of Franklin P. and Delilah

Marsha 10-20-1962

(Stofer) Myers, was born September 18, 1889, in DeKalb County, Indiana.



Mr. Myers is a high school graduate, took a Teachers Preparatory Course at Tri State College, and was graduated from the Commercial department of International College, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

He was married February 18, 1912, to Elta Urey of DeKalb County. She passed away April 10, 1926. On June 22, 1927, he married Gladys Lucas of Bloomington, Indiana. Their children are: Wayne W., Wilma, Marie, Harold A., Preston L., Marcia, Roger C., Sophie, and Robert A.

Glen is engaged in the business of farming, insurance, and investments, and is also active in sales work.

In 1938 he became a director of the Rural Electrification Membership Corporation, in which organization he is still active.

He is a member of the Masonic and Eastern Star Lodges.

His political affiliations are democratic, and from 1931 to 1935 he served as a township trustee. Mr. Myers is, and has been, chairman of the Selective Service Board since 1940.

Mr. Myers is a member of the Angola Church of Christ, and since 1942 has been a director of the Lake James Christian Assembly.

He resides on route 1, Ashley, Indiana, in Steuben Township.

### Biography of Daniel C. Oury

Daniel C. Oury was born two miles east of Flint, on April 26th, 1874. When he was two years old his parents, William and Rachel Oury, bought a 200-acre farm northwest of Flint, where he lived seventy-four years, until his death on January 8th, 1950.



He was married in 1896 to Katie Jackson, who lived south of Flint on

the Emma Morgan farm, now owned by Mr. and

Mrs. Frank Spurgeon. His mother, Rachel Oury, died in 1898, and his father, William, in 1901, leaving three younger children. Dan and his wife remained in the home caring for them until they had homes of their own.

He had three brothers, Burton, George, and Simon, and two sisters, Pearle and Ethel. They are all deceased but George and Ethel. George lives on a farm in Jackson Township, and Ethel (Mrs. Clyde Ferris) resides in Angola. Katie, Dan's wife, also lives in Angola.

They were the parents of two sons, Cecil who died at his home in Fort Wayne in 1948, and Clarence who lives in Peru, Indiana. Cecil left three children; namely, Kathryn, who has five children, Maxine who has six and C. L., two. They all live in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Clarence has been head of the Biology Department at Peru High School since the Fall of 1927. He is a graduate of DePauw University and received his Masters degree at the University of Chicago. He has four children, Phyllis, who has one child and lives at Champaign, Illinois; Stanley, who lives in LaFayette, Indiana; Glen, in the army; and Dan, at home.

Dan bought the farm from his brothers and sisters, borrowing money and paying 7 per cent interest. He was in debt many years and the farm work was very hard as at that time they had no electricity and none of the labor saving devices of recent years. They had six horses, and Dan never owned a tractor. The roads were poor. Wheat was never more than \$1.00 per bushel and often less. There were no trucks to haul it to market. The wagon had to be loaded the night before in order to start before daylight, walk part of the way to keep warm and arrive home after dark. The nearest market was in Angola.

Dan was a director of the R.E.M.C. since 1937, was one of the trustees of the Flint Cemetery for many years, and was active in both capacities at the time of his death. He was a member of the Masonic order and Farm Bureau for more than fifty years, was Township Trustee for two terms, and County commissioner for one term.

He had a keen mind and was quick to see and understand the problems of others. He was always a kind and sympathetic friend. Widows and orphans came to him with their troubles and never were turned away. He was always willing to give of his time and wisdom wherever needed. His



home was a refuge and his influence for good will last forever.

### Biography of Henry I. Parker

Henry I. Parker (Twin of Harvey S.), and son of Daniel S. and Margaret A. Hopkins Parker, was born November 12, 1887, in Jackson Township, Steuben County, Indiana. His father was born April 16, 1839, in Butler County, Pennsylvania, and died February 18, 1892, in LaGrange County. His father was a Veteran of the Civil War, having served 18 months as a private, under Captain Lewis Griffith of Co. A—44th Regiment of 2nd Volunteer Inf., being one of three brothers starting to war on the same day. He was discharged at the age of 26 years on September 14, 1865, at Nashville, Tenn. Henry I. Parker has in his possession the discharge of his father.

His mother, Margaret A. (Hopkins) Parker, was born October 4, 1855, in Jackson Township, Steuben County, and died March 21, 1930. Both parents are buried in Flint Cemetery.

Henry Parker was united in marriage December 25, 1914, to Miss Nellie Courtright. On February 2, 1921, their daughter Delia was born. Mrs. Parker passed away April 7, 1924.

On June 21, 1931, Henry Parker again married, this time Odessa (Guise) Stickney of Camden, Hillsdale County, Michigan.

Delia Parker, only daughter of Henry, married Emmet McClain of Salem Township, on June 8, 1940. They are the parents of two children, a daughter Nellie, twelve years old, and a son, Lesley, age 7 years. Mr. McLain is engaged in farming.

By trade Mr. Parker is a carpenter, having been in that business for the past 47 years. During the past 4 years he has been also engaged in plumbing work and in well drilling.

Mr. Parker is the owner and operator of a 20 acre farm in Jackson Township on road 327 south of U.S. #20, where they reside.

### Biography of John Baldwin Parsell

John Baldwin Parsell, son of pioneer parents, Thomas B. and Caroline Klink Parsell, was born in

Jackson Township, Steuben County, Indiana, on October 25, 1857.



When he was fourteen years of age, his father died and the boy shouldered a man's responsibilities, helping his courageous mother with active farming and providing a living for a younger sister and brother.

He attended the country schools, the Angola Academy, and studied mathematics, accounting, and business at Valparaiso University. While following the vocation of farming, he spent the winters teaching in neighboring rural schools. His success as a teacher is attested to by the many former pupils who were his lifelong friends.

On January 1, 1887, he married Carrie J. Abbey, daughter of Giles Thompson and Martha Long Abbey, and they began housekeeping on the two hundred and twenty acre "Henry Butler farm" in Salem Township, which Mr. Parsell had bought in 1886. To this union three children were born, the eldest a daughter, dying in infancy. Their daughter Florence, artist and former art teacher, is the wife of Jesse O. Covell of Scott Township. Their son Lewis Butler Parsell, of the General Electric Company offices in Detroit, and wife, Hazel Bemis Parsell, are the parents of Robert Parsell and Mary Jean, wife of Dr. John W. Eddy, all of Detroit, Michigan.

Mr. Parsell served Steuben County as clerk of the Circuit Court from 1895 to 1899, when he took employment as bookkeeper in the Wickwire bank, then in the Kinney bank, and assisted in the organization of the First National Bank of Angola, which he served as cashier, then Vice-President, then director for thirty-six years.

He was a Jury Commissioner from 1930 to 1950, and completed thirty years of service as local weather observer for the United States Department of Commerce.

Mr. Parsell was a member of Salem Center I. O. O. F.; which later became a part of the Angola Lodge, for fifty-seven years, and of the Angola F. and A. M. for thirty-three years.

Mr. and Mrs. Parsell were charter members and for fifty years were enthusiastic workers in the Alpha Farmers Club. Both were members of the Rebekah Lodge at Salem Center and later in Angola. Although both were faithful attend-

ants and supporters of the First Congregational Church in Angola, which Mr. Parsell served as a trustee, they kept their membership in the "Block" or Salem Presbyterian Church with which Mr. Parsell was affiliated for seventy-three years.

Mrs. Parsell died at their Angola home on October 14, 1945, at the age of eighty-six years and seven months. Mr. Parsell passed away on May 8, 1950, at the age of ninety-two years and six months. His brother, George Thomas Parsell, died August 3, 1936, at the age of sixty-nine years, and his sister Mary Elizabeth, widow of Hiram M. Crain, closed a life of cheerful service on January 27, 1952, at nearly ninety-one years of age.

Mr. Parsell was keenly interested in the forces and phenomena of nature. Many children in Steuben County saw rainbows, auroras, and eclipses because of his telephoned reminders.

He was a lifelong Republican and a supporter of every good work in the community. He was a man of steadfast loyalty to truth and the highest principles of living.

### Biography of Everett David Penick

Everett David Penick, son of Albert (Bert) and Bessie (Heckathorn) Penick, was born September 10, 1906, at Ashley, Indiana. His father passed away in 1926.

He attended Ashley High School and after graduation worked a few months at the Auburn Automobile Company, then began work for the vault company operated by Isaiah Hovarter and son Otto. The Company had been founded by Isaiah Hovarter and Alpheus McClellan, in April, 1907, but Otto took over Mr. McClellan's share January 1, 1910. In 1934 they incorporated under the name, "National Vault Inc."

In 1925 Isaiah retired because of ill health and in April, 1946, Otto sold to Everett D. Penick, who in 1948 took his brother-in-law, Robert O. Blessing, in as a partner.

In 1954 they began making septic tanks and other small concrete products in addition to burial vaults. They supply vaults to undertakers of the Tri-State area of Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

Everett is a member of Ashley Lions Club and the Masonic Lodge.

His family consists of one daughter, Roma Lee, now Mrs. William VanWagner, and a grandson, Wm. Scott. Two sisters, Mrs. Robert Blessing and Mrs. Russell Gelow, and a brother, Edwin Penick.

Mr. Penick recently retired from the Ashley Volunteer Fire Department after 25 years of service, and was a member of the town board for six years.

### Biography of I. L. Peters

I. L. Peters was born August 11, 1893 in Eagle Township, LaSalle County Illinois, the son of Ernest and Dora (Crawford) Peters.



He spent the years of 1918 and 1919 in the American Expeditionary Forces of the United States Army with the European Armed Forces.

He was married to Margaret Hunter, a former Art Teacher in the Pittsburgh Schools.

Mr. Peters received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Highland Park College, Des Moines, Iowa. He then attended DeKalb State Teachers College of DeKalb, Illinois, but was graduated from the School of Applied Arts, of Chicago, and in 1928 from the University of Pittsburgh Extension in the Study of European Art. Also, he was graduated from the Arts and Crafts School of Oakland, California.

Before teaching in the Schools of Steuben County, he had spent thirteen years in LaSalle County, Illinois, schools as a teacher of the grades and Principal of both the Ransom and the Sheridan, Illinois, High Schools.

From 1925 to 1942, he was Supervisor of Art, Primary Reading, and Handwriting, in the Schools of Steuben County, Indiana. It was through the efforts of Mr. Peters that the Supplementary Reading Library was established in the primary grades. Also, for twelve summers he was Institute Instructor in various counties in Illinois and Indiana.

He then went to Pittsburgh and was Director of Art at South High School. He is at present the Director of North Highland School of Applied Arts, of the Pittsburgh City Schools.

In all of Mr. Peters' school work he never lost sight of the fact that the school is for the child and that the school is the child's way of salvation from ignorance, weakness, and wrong living—the open door to usefulness and power. In entering upon what he deemed the opportunity of his life, he meant to help every child in the Public School by directing the teachers, with whom he worked,



to do the right thing for each child according to his individual differences.

### Biography of Richard J. Pfingstag

Richard J. Pfingstag, youngest son of Jacob Pfingstag, was born in Newport, Ky., on February 23, 1871, and passed away at Hudson, Ind., on March 27, 1947, at the age of 76 years. Jacob, an immigrant from Switzerland, had a tailor shop in his own home in Newport. Richard became a clothing cutter for a firm in Cincinnati, Ohio, but because of ill health he decided to go into the onion raising business. In the spring of 1911 he purchased forty acres of muck land in Fairfield Township, DeKalb County, and moved his family to Hudson, Ind., where he resided until his death. Around 1914 he, along with Carl Hardy and Roy Waterman, built the Hudson Storage, along the Wabash R. R. Later Mr. Waterman sold his share to Frank Strock. In the 1920's Mr. Pfingstag retired as a farmer, but bought and sold onions for a number of years.

Emma Pfingstag, wife of Richard, was born in New London, Ohio, on January 29, 1874, and died on October 30, 1950, at Hudson, Ind. She was the youngest child of Rev. John Mosshammer and Elizabeth (Clark Henning) Mosshammer. John Mosshammer came to America from Nuremberg, Germany. He settled in Angola about 1853 and had a store and also worked as a painter for a number of years. Some of his customers were: Robert Patterson, W. C. Weicht, A. W. Hendry, Samuel Clark, and many others. Later he entered the ministry and preached for the United Brethren German Conference. While he served as pastor in Newport, Ky., Richard was married to Emma in 1894.

To this union six children were born: Vivian, who resides in Hudson and farms a large farm with his son-in-law, Robert Coggeshall, near Scott Center; Stella, Mrs. Verl Pike, a retired school teacher with 36 years service, 35 in Hudson; Herbert, Carl, and Paul, all Annapolis graduates with the rank of Captain. Up to the present time this is the only family in the history of the Naval Academy having three brothers with the rank of Captain, Engineering Duty, in the U. S. Navy at the same time. Dorothy, Mrs. Charles Meek, now residing in Lorain, Ohio, was Instrumental County Music Supervisor of Steuben County for four years (1936-1940).

### Biography of H. H. Pinchon

Hiram Harvey Pinchon was born in Noble County, Indiana, March 7, 1871. His parents were Anthony and Mary Ann (Deckman) Pinchon. Anthony Pinchon was born near Baltimore, Maryland, the son of Jean (John) and Suzanne (Miller) Pinchon. Jean Pinchon was of French Huguenot stock and Suzanne Miller was of German Lutheran extraction. Mary Ann Deckman was born of Holland Dutch parents in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. All came to Noble county when Indiana was a young state.

Anthony Pinchon was a builder of wagons, sleighs, and buggies. He fashioned these by hand with a very thorough workmanship and extreme artistry. In addition to this he owned and operated a saw mill where young Hiram was early instructed in the manufacture of lumber.

Anthony Pinchon died July 5, 1884. Hiram was then only 14 years old, and he helped his mother rear his five brothers and sisters before he could establish his own home. His sisters were Jane, Ivy, and Viola, and his brothers were George and Charles. All have preceded him in death but Mrs. Ivy Tyler, of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Mary Ann D. Pinchon died April 22, 1919.

Mr. Pinchon acquired his early education in the Noble County schools. At the age of 19 he went to work as a head sawyer in a lumber plant in Steuben County. He worked 10 years for J. W. Goodwin as head sawyer in a mill in Fremont, Indiana; and then he bought and operated his own plant in Fremont. For a period of 50 years he supplied Fremont and the surrounding farm community with fine lumber.

He built a lovely home in Fremont where he and his wife Elizabeth Ellen (DaHuff) Pinchon reared their four children. Mrs. Pinchon was the daughter of Simon and Mary (Horner) DaHuff of "Oak Ridge Farm" near Pleasant Lake, Indiana; she was born November 23, 1872. Simon DaHuff was of Knickerbocker Holland Dutch stock from New York State. Mary Horner was of English and Irish stock.

Mr. Pinchon's four children were educated in the Fremont schools and three of them were educated in universities. Clarence B. Pinchon was a graduate of Indiana University and was a student flier at Love Field, Dallas, Texas, at the time of his death in a plane crash March 8, 1930. Miss Inez Pinchon, who now lives at the family home in Fre-

mont is a graduate of DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana. Mrs. Wava A. Hedley, Birmingham, Michigan, is a graduate of Michigan State Normal, Ypsilanti, Michigan. The eldest daughter, Mrs. Zona Hancock, lives at Swanton, Ohio. Mrs. Pinchon passed away on April 21, 1928.

On August 20, 1929, Mr. Pinchon was married to Mrs. Jennie Bradner of Angola, Indiana. November 23, 1938, she was instantly killed in an automobile accident enroute to Detroit, Michigan, on U. S. 112, near Saline, Michigan.

During his active business career Mr. Pinchon was considered the finest sawyer ever to have been produced in northeastern Indiana. He was in good health up to 1943 when he retired. He was generally well until just two weeks prior to his death. He passed on at his home, on July 12, 1954. He is buried at Mt. Zion cemetery, west of Angola, Indiana.

### Biography of Charles L. Puffer

Mr. Charles Puffer served as Manager of the Steuben County R E M C since the time it began operation in September, 1938, until his death on October 13th, 1954.



A native of Columbia Falls, Maine, he was graduated from the University of Maine in electrical engineering and had been associated with the General Electric Company, the Westinghouse Corporation, and the Henry Doherty interests as general field manager for that Company. He was especially skilled in the construction, engineering, and installation of electric generating plants, and had travelled extensively over the United States.

Mr. Puffer came to Angola in the late twenties and purchased the Bodley Plumbing and Heating business which he operated for several years.

With the establishing of the rural electric program for the county, he was chosen as the first Manager for the project here and was in personal charge of the construction, installation, and financing of the business which under his skillful management has developed into an enterprise of much magnitude and has been a financial success.

Under his management the cooperative has a fine headquarters and office building together with a network of distribution lines throughout the territory. The Steuben County R E M C has

met all obligations to date on its government loan, has paid \$137,000.00 in advance on its loan, and has property and government bonds in addition amounting to over \$300,000.00. It has a total membership of approximately 2,340, and ranks well at the top among the R E M C's of the state and nation. Because of Rural Electrification life on the farm has been made brighter—life has been made easier—life is more productive.

Besides his wife, Hallah, Mr. Puffer is survived by a son, Charles, Jr., who is State Superintendent of Schools in the state of Maine; a daughter, Mrs. Irene Morrison, the wife of a minister serving churches in various parts of New England.

Mr. Puffer's service as manager of the local rural electric cooperative was highly esteemed by the local board of directors and leaders in the state and national rural electric organizations, as well as by those in charge of the Rural Electrification Administration.

### Biography of Oscar F. Rakestraw

Oscar F. Rakestraw was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, October 30, 1849, a son of Caleb and Elezan Rakestraw, who came to Steuben County with their family in 1858, settling near Metz, Indiana.

Oscar, the eldest, received his education in the Public School and Hillsdale College. After leaving school, he was engaged in the Insurance Business until 1877, when he entered the office of the Steuben Republican, with which he was connected, as editor, for nearly forty-five years.

Mr. Rakestraw was married on June 10, 1879, to Melissa Cline, eldest daughter of the late Michael and Barbara Cline. Two daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Rakestraw: Ruth Elezan, now Mrs. John Hansen of Saddle River, New Jersey; and Dorothy, now Mrs. Perry Hull of Lake James, Indiana.

Mr. Rakestraw was one of the few men who was bigger than his job, and who saw not only the need of humanity, but saw a way to be a benefactor to the community, to religion, and to educational advancement; and, for years, practiced his beliefs, conscientiously and consistently. In the early days of Tri-State College, he was one of those understanding and sympathetic men who gave much needed help and encouragement to the management and faculty when they were needed most and, also, extended the helping hand,



and gave encouragement and financial aid to the worthy, ambitious, and often discouraged student.

He was active in the Republican Party, but never sought office.

For over forty years he was a member of the First Christian Church where for many years he served in the capacity of Elder.

He built and maintained a home, and lived many summers at Lake James where many hours were spent fishing.

Following a short illness he passed away at the family residence, January 24, 1922, at the age of seventy-three years.

### Biography of Florence Lang Rawlinson and Greenwood N. Bodley

Florence Lang Rawlinson, daughter of Augustus H. and Sarah Bodley Lang, was born in Toledo, Ohio, where she received her early education.



Later she was graduated from the Northfield School for girls in Massachusetts, and from the School of Library Science of Syracuse University.

Florence had six brothers: Greenwood, Robert, Delmer, Alfred, Warren, and Howard. Warren is now living in Virginia and Howard in Cleveland, Ohio. Her father and mother, more familiarly known to everyone as "Gus and Sarah" spent their last years living at Salem Center, Indiana.

After college, Florence went to Ceylon as a foreign secretary of the Y.W.C.A. After three years she was transferred to Bombay, India. While returning to the United States for furlough in 1916, she met the Rev. Frank Rawlinson, a missionary to China. In 1917 she and Mr. Rawlinson were married, and they returned to China with five of his six children. Three children, Ruth, John, and Jean were born to them. After Mr. Rawlinson's death in 1937, Florence returned to the United States and became engaged in church work in Hartford, Connecticut. After 16 years as Pastoral Associate she is retired and lives in Manchester, Connecticut.

Mrs. Rawlinson is a niece of the late Greenwood Bodley who was born in Salem Township, where

he spent his early life, attending school at the small frame school house a few rods west of the village of Salem Center. Greenwood spent all his mature years in Angola, Indiana. He was one of the pioneer grocers, occupying a room in the southwest corner of the public square, entering this business in the late 1870's and continuing for several years. Later he moved his store into the Hendry Building where it was known as the Bodley and Company Dry Goods and Groceries. In later years he operated a plumbing business on North Wayne Street.

He was a member and strong pillar of the Methodist Church of Angola, and was also a member of the I.O.O.F. . . . a man of strong character, of integrity never questioned, a good counselor, and loved by all who knew him.

His later years were lived in retirement at his home on West Maumee Street. "A good life, well lived."

### Biography of Wymond L. C. Ritter, Sr.

Wymond L. C. Ritter was born June 4, 1894, in Steuben County, Indiana, the son of William and Orpha Ritter.



He was married June 4, 1915, to Clara Talbott of Connersville, Indiana, and to this marriage were born four children, namely:

Wymond L. C., Jr., of Pleasant

Lake, who is an auto mechanic at Andy's Firestone Service in Angola and who is married to Virginia Hamman of Ashley. They have two children, Wymond Lee and Peggy Ann.

Jack Talbott Ritter, driver of a city bus in Goshen, Indiana, married Leota Rohm of Goshen, Indiana, and they are the parents of three children—Douglas Wayne, John Patrick, and Michael Kent.

Don Frederick Ritter, of Bryan, Ohio, is an engineer with the Aero Company there. His wife was Betty Lou Dills of Garrett, Indiana.

Patricia Ann Ritter, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, is accounting supervisor, General Motors Acceptance Corporation.

Wymond Sr. attended school at Mt. Zion and

Angola, Indiana. He was graduated from Angola High School in 1913. He then attended Tri-State College, and was graduated from the Commercial Course in 1914.

Mr Ritter spent most of his life in Angola, having been bookkeeper for the Angola Creamery, Clerk Angola State Bank, Secretary and Treasurer of the Angola Cooperative Dairy Products Company, and spent several years with Hosack's Music House, and 7½ years as Production Dispatcher for General Electric of Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was bookkeeper for the Sunrise Dairy, Angola, Indiana, at the time of his death.

Wymond was a member of the Methodist Church, Angola, Indiana, the Masonic Bodies, serving as secretary for several years. He was also a member of the Eastern Star and was Worthy Patron for three years. He served as Scout Master for Troop #181 during World War I.

In 1947 the Ritter and Ferry Dress Shop was organized with Clara Ritter and Mildred Ferry as co-owners. Mr. Ritter was very much interested in the store and gave much of his time and assistance in its operation. He loved his family and home, and was a great lover of nature.

Wymond Ritter Sr. died October 11, 1953. He is buried in Mt. Zion cemetery, Steuben County, Indiana.

### Biography of Howard Rodman

Howard Rodman was born in 1917 in Paulding County, Ohio. In 1923 the family moved to Van Wert, Ohio.

Howard was a man of versatile abilities, and spent a good deal of his time in farming. He was with the Weiker Grain Company in Van Wert for nine years holding the position of manager of the seed house.

It was while working for Weiker Grain that he met Louise Strack, also from Van Wert, who was a secretary for the company. On June 17, 1951, they were married there in Van Wert. Louise's parents were Harry and Elizabeth Strack of Van Wert. Elizabeth passed away when Louise was twelve years old.

After their marriage Howard and Louise moved, with her father, to York township here in Steuben County, and bought a farm in the southeast quarter of section 19 in 1951.

Louise was in the Women's Army Corps for four and one half years, enlisting in 1939. During

those years she was secretary to General (now president) Dwight D. Eisenhower.

They have a son, Richard, born March 28, 1954, at the Elmhurst hospital in Angola.

Howard operates the Gulf Service Station one mile north of Metz at Nine mile corners, formerly known as Courtney's corners, nine miles east of Angola where they now make their home.

### Biography of Robert Edwin Rosenberger



Robert Rosenberger was born in Steuben County on June 18, 1869. His father and mother at that time resided on Section 17, in Jackson Township.

In 1871 he, his sister Ella I. (Rosenberger) DeWire, born at Union Mills, Ind. on December 18, 1866, and now residing at 411 South Darling Street, Angola; his father Jacob C. Rosenberger, born at Arcadia, Ohio, on September 11, 1841; his mother Elizabeth (Eckert) Rosenberger and her two sisters, Catherine and Mary, also cousin Samuel E. Rosenberger, born at Orland, Ind., on March 12, 1863; drove from Steuben County to Geneva, Nebraska, arriving there in June after sixty days on the road. While in Nebraska they lived in a sod house with a wood floor and roof, made of lumber hauled a distance of 75 miles, and used firewood hauled a distance of thirty miles.

His mother died in 1872, after which his father took him and his sister back to Steuben County where they lived with their grandfather and grandmother, Adam and Mary (Oberholtzer) Rosenberger, who resided at that time on section eight in Salem Township, about one and one-half miles west of Salem Center.

In addition to his father, Jacob C., who served his country in the Civil War, three of his father's brothers, John, Daniel, and Isaac, all have their names engraved on the Soldiers' Monument which stands in the Angola public square.

A granddaughter of Abraham, the oldest of the brothers, is now living in Angola, being Mrs. Esther (Brooks) Bassett.

His grandfather died in 1876 and was buried in Block Cemetery, on section eight of Salem Township.

In 1877 he went to Eugene, Ill., to live with his grandmother's brother, Joseph Oberholtzer,



where he lived until the fall of 1886 when he re-joined his father and sister in Eaton County, Mich., where his sister taught school.

He attended high school during the session of 1886-87 at Charlotte, Mich, leaving there in 1887 for Ludington, Mich., to strike out for himself.

During his stay of approximately eight years at Ludington he drifted from a position as hotel porter to a foremanship in a transfer grain elevator owned and operated by the Pere Marquette R.R. Co., with starts and stops at various other occupations, including a stretch as top man in the grocery department of a large general store.

He left Ludington, temporarily, in 1893 to attend the World's Fair in Chicago, going from there to Colorado where he took a fling at gold mining along the Platte River above Denver, but the fabulous deposits that he sought there consistently eluded him.

After a short stay in Colorado he returned to Ludington leaving there in 1895 to accept a position with a large commissary for a lumber company on an Indian reservation at Lac du Flambeau in Northern Wisconsin, where he married Alice Campbell on June 16, 1897, and where his eldest son, Howard Campbell, was born on June 16, 1898.

Leaving there in early 1899, he went to Woodstock, Ill., to operate a poultry farm and there his oldest daughter, Margaret Elizabeth, was born on February 1, 1900.

Early in 1900 he moved to Ashland, Wis., where he was employed in a wholesale hardware store, but left there in a few months to take charge of a general store at Bay Shore, Mich., for a Lime and Lumber Company.

Leaving Bay Shore he lived for upwards of a year at Traverse City, Mich., where his second son, Lyman Addison, was born on August 19, 1902. He left Traverse City in May 1903, to accept a position as manager of a commissary for a large lumber corporation at Garyville, La., also serving there as assistant postmaster and postmaster for over thirteen years.

In 1917 he endeavored to enlist in the Armed Forces being recruited for service in World War I, but was rejected on account of his age, being 48.

He later assisted in the building of Camp Shelby at Hattiesburg, Miss., and from there was engaged in the building of ships at Pascagoula,

Miss. His two sons were also employed in the Pascagoula shipyards. The younger son, Lyman A., shipped on the newly built steamship, Berela, as cabin boy on her maiden voyage to Liverpool with a cargo of lumber.

He also served as postmaster for a short time at Pascagoula. He afterwards returned to the service of his former employer at Garyville, in 1920, remaining there until they had completed the cutting of their timber holding in Louisiana in 1931.

His wife Alice (Campbell) Rosenberger who endeared herself to all who knew her and who had ministered so long and faithfully to his needs and those of their four children, passed away on Christmas day in 1939.

In order to maintain his home as a rallying place for his children during his remaining years and to keep it as an oasis in a world of struggle and strife, as it had always been, he married a most estimable lady of his acquaintance, Mrs. Alice Jennings, on November 24, 1940. She was the mother of three living children and, since their marriage, the members of both families have apparently lived in perfect harmony.

His second son, Lyman Addison, married Edna Riser on May 2, 1935; they have four children, Lyman A. Jr., John Robert, Mary Alice, and Edna Elizabeth. His grandson, Lyman A. Jr., married Ann Johnston on December 29, 1953. His youngest daughter, Helen Evangeline, married Dr. Solon R. Humphries on October 31, 1931. He died Sept. 26, 1945, leaving no children.

Mr. Rosenberger finally retired from active duty in 1945, at the age of seventy-six. Since that time his active interests have been mostly centered in the ambitions and requirements of his four children and four grandchildren. He presently (May 1954), resides at Garyville, La.

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### Biography of Ben A. Sams

Ben A. Sams, son of Albert and Martha Sams, was born January 20, 1891, in Jackson Township, Steuben County, Indiana.

Mr. Sams received his education in the rural schools of Steuben County, and at Flint High School, Flint, Indiana.

He was married March 27, 1921, to Vera Gladys Mundy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Mundy,

of Jackson Township. Their children are: Gene Marilyn (now Mrs. Theodore Bauck); and Gordon Sams, who is married to Barbara Hoyer.

At one time Mr. Sams was Service Manager for the Auburn Cord Company of Cleveland, Ohio, but after locating in Jackson Township engaged in the farming profession.

He was a member of the Board of Directors of the R.E.M.C., the Flint Cemetery Board, and a member of the American Legion 40 and 8. His political affiliation was Democratic.

During World War I, Mr. Sams was a Gunnery Sgt. in the Marine Corps. He served in Santa Domingo, being in Marine Aviation.

Included in his various hobbies, besides his civic interest, was his activity in 4-H Fair work, his interest in fishing, especially through the ice, and his interest in farming.

Mr. Sams was a member of the Methodist Church at Flint, Indiana. He passed away May 14, 1955.

### Biography of Earl D. Schaeffer

Earl D. Schaeffer, one of five children born to Daniel A. and Olive Balch Schaeffer, was born at Reading, Michigan, September 6, 1888. At the age of five years he moved with his parents to the old Schaeffer homestead one mile north of Fremont, Indiana. He was graduated from the Fremont High School with the



Class of 1908.

On December 28, 1909, he was married to Eddith Esthom, and to them were born four children.

Gilbert Dean, who owns his home in Fremont and is employed by the Pet Milk Company of Angola, is married to the former Helen Hellinger, and has two sons and three daughters.

Esther married Walter Mims, a tool designer, and they also own their home in Fremont. They had one son, who died at the age of 13 of brain tumor.

Donald, who married Patricia Smith, is an ac-

countant at the Salisbury Axle Company in Fort Wayne. They own their home in Fort Wayne, and have one son and one daughter.

Wendell, who married Wilma Mounts, is employed by the J. C. Penney Company at Angola. They own their home in Fremont and have two daughters.

Earl D. Schaeffer owned a farm northeast of Fremont and engaged in farming for several years. In 1924 he was appointed Rural Mail Carrier at Fremont, and in 1937 was transferred as Rural Carrier to Ray, Indiana, which position he holds at the present time. He owns his home in Fremont, but spends a great deal of time at his cottage at Clear Lake. Fishing is his hobby.

He has been an active member of the Fremont Evangelical United Brethren Church for 48 years. At the present time he holds offices of class leader, church treasurer, and member of the Board of Trustees. He also teaches a class of adults.

He is the present President of the Fremont Commercial Club.

### Biography of Milton Seehawer

Milton Seehawer was born on April 15, 1905 near Syracuse, Indiana, the son of August and Emma Seehawer. His father was an immigrant who arrived in this country when he was twenty-three years old. His mother was brought up near Watertown, Wisconsin.

When Milton was sixteen years old the family moved to Millgrove Township, Steuben County, Indiana. He has lived in or near there ever since, except for six months spent as an electrician in Lansing, Michigan.

Milton married Velma Warner of Lake Pleasant, Jamestown Township, Steuben County, in 1933. They lived in the David Nettleman residence for three years. It was during this time that he operated a portable feed grinder. In October, 1936, they moved to his father's farm near Orland. This was during the beginning days of the R.E.M.C., and Milton wired many homes for them even before the lines were installed. In January, 1937, a daughter, Carol Eileen, was born.

In February, 1939, they moved into their own home, the Immel plot, which adjoined his father's farm. It was at this time that he went to work for the Stroh Cement Plant, as a maintenance man. He



remained in their employ until they went out of business. Following this they spent six months in Lansing.

In January, 1942, they came back to their own home and have lived there ever since. A second child was born in May, 1945, another daughter, Lorraine Marie.

He worked for the State Highway Department at this time and helped to build road 120 out of Orland to road 27. He also mowed roadsides and plowed snow. There was one instance where he worked for forty-two hours, during a large storm, opening highways and helping trucks up hills.

In 1947 he bought his first crane, and since has had three different ones. Now at the present time he owns two. With these cranes he has done much to improve the appearance and usefulness of much property in northeastern Indiana and Michigan. Following is a list of a few of these accomplishments: cleaned county ditches; made a road back to Lake James for Leo Abrahamson; improved part of the east end of Lake James for the Urselles; filled in the corner where Bledsoes have their fishing tackle house; improved the east end of Lake Pleasant so cottages could be put up; and built a road around the northwest end of Lake Gage and terraced some lots there.

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### Charles Edwin Shank

Charles Edwin Shank was born in Monroeville, Indiana, on January 21, 1889. His father, Henry Shank, was of German descent; his mother, Ida Vance Wilson, was Irish and French.



While he was still a small boy he was acting out Grimm's Fairy Tales for his family and friends. At six years he presented "The Frog Prince" on Christmas morning, an early indication of his life-time interest in the fine art of acting.

Believing there were better educational advantages for his two sons in Angola, Henry Shank sold his property in Monroeville and moved to Angola where he bought Timmerman's Drug Store.

Charles Shank's schooling was delayed by illness but he entered Fifth Ward School in Angola in 1897. It was not long afterward that he had organ-

ized two literary societies and began suggesting how parts should be played. Discerning teachers encouraged him to tell stories and to act in plays.

By the time he was in the eighth grade the movies had arrived, and Lyceum and Chautauqua had invaded Angola. He spent many hours sweeping the drug store to earn money to see them. He sang in high school and church choirs. For four years he was class poet. In his Junior year he wrote the class play which starred his cousin, Mildred Shank.

It was at this time that Prof. I. M. Cochran, a Speech professor at Tri State, became interested in Charles Shank and soon had him memorizing good literature and reading on local programs. He was graduated in the two year Speech course from Tri-State College in 1906.

In 1910 he entered the University of Michigan. After one year he came back to Angola, because of his father's illness. A year later he was made Head of Speech at Tri-State College. During this time the College Comedy Club presented six successful productions of college operas. Those were also the golden days of the Croxton Opera House and of many fine entertainments in the Endeavor Society of the old Christian Church. He contributed his unusual talents to these productions.

In 1916 he entered Northwestern University where he made straight A's, was chosen by the Drama League as a four minute man to make war speeches, took the lead in the graduating play, and directed the Alumni Day Play.

After his graduation in 1918 he was drafted into the Army. By the time he was on board a transport going overseas, his ability was discovered and he was made Program Director. His outfit reached France a few days after the Armistice. He was placed on Elsie Janis's entertainment program for soldiers which toured French and English Camps. Declining an offer to join a professional stock company, he rejoined his outfit and came home in February, 1919.

While Mr. Shank was teaching in Las Vegas, New Mexico, Harry Horner of the famous Horner Lyceum Circuit heard him and signed him to a three year contract. He was booked as a single artist, reading plays, and toured from Texas to Canada through the midwest and the south. He was firmly established as a professional performer. But his throat went bad and he was over-worked.

After a summer at Northwestern, he returned to professional directing at Fort Wayne, where he helped organize the Community Theater Guild, directed high school plays, the choir of Trinity Church, and the recreational work of Plymouth Congregational Church.

Then Charles Shank returned once more to Tri-State College where he organized the Tri-State College Alumni Players, who for six years presented Shakespearean plays. He designed and used the Sniff Memorial Outdoor Stage on the campus. Intermittently from 1910 until 1946 Mr. Shank directed plays and operettas on the College Campus. The last play was *Hasty Heart*. For an even longer period he directed the Angola High School Plays—some thirty productions—intermittently from 1909 until 1947. There have not been many plays in Angola without "Direction by Charles Edwin Shank."

Shortly after the reorganization at the college, Mr. Shank, with the generous help and interest of many citizens who had either taken part in his plays or enjoyed them from the audience, organized the Angola Civic Theater. This organization has given six productions under his direction. It has also presented Children's Theater productions.

Charles Shank is the true artist. His part in the culture of Steuben County is inestimable. Who can name all of those who love the theater because he opened their eyes to its magic? It is his inspiration that has sent young people from Steuben County into many different fields of Speech and Dramatics. More than any other one person he is responsible for the discriminating judgment of local audiences. For Charles Shank is a perfectionist. His plays are not only wisely cast and directed; they are beautifully staged. Few amateur casts can boast the kind of professional stage designs that Mr. Shank can create.

Mr. Shank modestly attributed his success as a director to learning his craft early, to continued study, to a personal resolution to show the best. Those who have worked with him know that his love of his art, his devotion to the beauty of the spoken word, his clear direction, and his deep understanding of every character he creates, make the experience something to be treasured everlastingly.

Editor's Note: Mr. Shank passed away since the writing of his biography, 1954.

## Biography of Daniel Jacob Shank

Daniel Jacob Shank was born in Pleasant Mills, Adams County, Indiana, April 9, 1849, a son of John R. and Mary (Lizar) Shank.



His father was a native of Lancaster, Pa., and his mother of Centerville, Wayne County, Indiana.

John R. came to Ohio in 1841 and later to Pleasant Mills. When an epidemic of cholera made it necessary to flee from that part of the country, he moved his family by covered wagon to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Upon return, he made his home in Willshire, Ohio, and later moved to Monroeville, Indiana.

John R. Shank had four children: Michael, who died in 1852; Kansas B., who died in 1865; Daniel Jacob; and Henry, who for many years was a druggist in Angola and died in 1936 and whose wife, Ida, died in 1937. He retired in Angola after operating the Mill at Hamilton, and died in 1900 at the age of 82. His wife outlived him and died in 1912, also at the age of 82.

He was a miller by trade, and Daniel Jacob followed in his footsteps, going to work for Jacob Dague in his grist mill. He courted his employer's daughter, Malinda Catherine Dague, with whom he eloped to be married in 1873.

To this union were born four children:

Emmet E., April 2, 1874. He married Ella Goff who died in 1952. They had four children: Adelbert, Edytha, Malinda, and Marsella, all of whom are married.

Nora Vanette, December 2, 1875, married Joseph Brokaw, who died in 1945. Their children were: Austin, John, and Robert and Richard, twins. All are married and have children.

Myrtle Pearl, April 19, 1877. Married Prof. Geo. G. Niehous of Tri-State College, who was later President of the College. They had one daughter, Mary Malinda, who was killed in an automobile accident on August 13, 1938. Prof. Niehous died in 1951.

Mildred Mary, their only child to be born in Angola, February 12, 1891, was married to Johan R. Bakstad, who was a Tri-State Engineering student from Norway in 1910 to 1912 and, who after 22 years in the engineering business, purchased the



Daniel Shank Lumber Company in 1934. They have two children: Eleanore, who married Wayne E. Aldrich and has a daughter Kari Jo; and Daniel Shank Bakstad, who married Shirley Olsen and has four children: Daniel Eric, Kristin Kay, Craig Stephen, and Lisa Karen.

In the 1880's Daniel Jacob Shank moved to Angola from Monroeville and worked in the local grist mill. Due to health measures caused by mill dust he purchased the Lumber Yard located at W. Maumee St. and New York Central Railroad from Priscilla Austin in the 1880's, which he operated, later joined by his son Emmet, for 50 years until 1934, when, due to his age of 85, he sold the business to his son-in-law, Jo. R. Bakstad, who has continued to operate under the name of "Daniel Shank Lumber Company, Inc."

Jo's son, Daniel Shank Bakstad, is now engaged in the Lumber Business with his father, which business was established in 1880 and now is 75 years old.

Daniel Jacob Shank was a highly respected citizen, active in community life. He was a member of the City Council for many years, a director of the Steuben County Bank, a charter member of the K of P Lodge and the Scavenger Club, and interested in the Old County Fair Association in its hey-day.

Mrs. Shank preceded him in death on Jan. 18, 1918, and Daniel Jacob Shank died on January 31, 1938, long to be remembered for his part in making Angola the fine city it is today.

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### Biography of Stanley M. Shartle

Though the subject of this biography has only lately arrived in Steuben County, he has already recognized the hospitality of the people here and is appreciative. He comes from Hendricks County, Indiana, where he was reared and where he owns property.

Stanley M. Shartle was born in Brazil, Indiana, September 27, 1922, the son of Arthur T. Shartle and Mildred (Musgrave) Shartle. All of Mr. Shartle's earliest American ancestors immigrated to this continent during colonial times; some of these progenitors were of royal descent. Several of his forefathers served valiantly in the Revolution and subsequent wars, and later generations were

among the first pioneers to settle in the Indiana territory before it was admitted to the Union.

On April 7, 1948, he married Anna Lee Mantle, daughter of Roscoe Randolph Mantle and Flossie (Reeves) Mantle of Danville, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Shartle have one son, Randy, born in Indianapolis October 3, 1950.

Mr. Shartle is a Registered Professional Engineer and Registered Land Surveyor. He was graduated from high school at Danville, Indiana, and attended Purdue University Extension and Purdue Technical Institute. During World War II, 1942-1944, he was on special assignment in surveying and mapping at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, for the Navy Department. He is a Republican and has served two terms as Surveyor of Hendricks County and seven years as Chief Deputy. In addition, he has owned and operated a private surveying business for ten years. Concurrently with his present position on the engineering staff of the Indiana Toll Road Commission, he is Drainage Commissioner of Hendricks County.

Mr. Shartle's qualifications in the mathematical sciences became recognized in 1951 when he presented a paper in the Journal of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping demonstrating his discovery of a method of solving certain complex surveying problems through the use of linear empirical formulas. Thereupon, he was chosen to co-author the mathematics chapter of an official publication of the ACSM. The National Research Council, in 1946, published an account of Mr. Shartle's investigation of a mathematical table which had been in use by computers for 83 years, revealing 274 errors which were theretofore unknown to the world of mathematics. His collection of books on surveying is the largest in Indiana.

His name is included in the Mathematical Sciences Section of the National Register of Scientific and Technical Personnel and he is a member of the American Mathematical Society, Mathematical Association of America, National Society of Professional Engineers, American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, Indiana Society of Professional Engineers, Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors, Indiana County Surveyors' and Engineers' Association, and Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. He formerly was secretary and member of the Hendricks County Plan Commission.

### Biography of Bert E. Shields

Bert E. Shields, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Shields, was born in Salem Township on August 9, 1905. His early life was spent in the Salem Center Community where he attended the grade school, being graduated from Salem Township High School.



He took teachers' training at Tri-State College and taught several terms of school in Salem Township. In his boyhood days he was a regular attendant at the "Old Block" Presbyterian Church.

On June 26, 1926, he was united in marriage to Naomi Arlien Clay, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Clay, also of Salem Township. They have one son, Burton Gene, born on October 12, 1928, a graduate of Kendallville High School who attended Purdue University for one year, studying Chemical Engineering. After serving four years in the U. S. Navy and receiving his discharge, for further education in Pharmacy he attended the University of Washington in Seattle from which he is a graduate. Burton married Joan Ann Hannah, and they have one son, Bradley Lee.

Bert E.'s first permanent home was established at Kendallville, Indiana, when he took employment with a milk plant as a laborer, working in all departments. He was made plant superintendent in 1939 and plant manager of the Kraft Foods Company plant at Kendallville in 1946. On April 7, 1954, he received an award for 25 years of continuous service.

Mr. Shields' younger brother, Jesse, is associated with "Krafts." He is now plant manager of Kraft Foods Company plant at Palmyra, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Shields are members of the Methodist Church in Kendallville. Mr. Shields is a member of the Masonic Lodge, having worked his way through the Blue Lodge, and is a member of the Scottish Rite.

### Biography of Harvey E. Shoup

Harvey E. Shoup, now serving in his sixth year as Justice of the Peace of Pleasant Township, occupies the law offices formerly held by the late



Judge Clyde C. Carlin, where he has practiced law since retiring from the office of Clerk of Circuit Court, January 1, 1932.

Born in Williams County, Ohio, of German ancestry, he came with his parents to a farm in Scott Township when six years of age. Graduating from the eighth grade, he attended Fremont High School and received his diploma in the Spring of 1908. Choosing as his vocation that of a teacher, he attended Michigan State Normal College at Kalamazoo, and taught his first school at Alagansee, Michigan, in the year of 1908-9. After attending Tri-State (Normal) College he continued to teach for six more years in Steuben County, Indiana, but was forced to give up teaching as a profession on account of ill health. He then took a course, and was graduated from the bookkeeping and banking department of International Business College, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

In 1914 he was nominated and elected to the office of Recorder of Steuben County on the Republican ticket and served efficiently for eight years. In 1924 he was nominated and elected as Clerk of the Steuben Circuit Court, which office he served with honor and distinction for eight years. During these terms of office he inaugurated the loose leaf system of typing the minutes on the Order Books.

While acting as Clerk of the Circuit Court, he studied law and was admitted to the Bar on March 13, 1929, and upon retiring from public office on January 1, 1932, he entered active practice of law, specializing in Probate, Insurance, and Title, and supplemented the income of the early lean years of a lawyer's profession with other employment, first as an insurance agent and later as a real estate broker.

On the 28th day of May, 1911, Harvey E. Shoup was united in marriage to Nada Belle Chrysler, the eldest daughter of John and Margaret (Nuttle) Chrysler, and throughout the years she has been his inspiration and helpmate in all of his undertakings. Five children came to bless their home—two boys—Otto C., born July 1, 1912, and Willis R., born August 30, 1914; three girls—Miriam M., born March 13, 1918, Joanne Marie, born July 26, 1922, and Ruth Elinor, born November 5, 1924.

Otto C. is now married to Mabel Gorrell, and is



the proud father of five children, Harvey D., Sara Alice, Max, Barbara, and Allen E., and lives at Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Willis R. was married to Gwen Davies, and they are the parents of one son, John David, all living in St. Petersburg, Florida, where they settled following Willis' discharge from the U. S. Navy.

Miriam M. is the wife of Eugene P. Thompson, and together with their two children, Susan Gene and David Patrick, lives at South Bend, Indiana.

Joanne Marie is the wife of Arthur C. Booth, and with their adopted daughter, Carol, lives at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Ruth Elinor is the wife of Lieut. Charles L. Shuford, and with their daughter Ann Laurine, now live near the air base at Savannah, Georgia.

Mr. Shoup can trace his ancestry no further than his grandparents, all of whom were born in Germany. His grandfather, Peter Shoup, who was naturalized under the name of "Peter Schaub," was a native of Prussia. His paternal grandmother, Anna Catherine (Field) Shoup, was a native of Hesse, Germany. His mother, Mary Shoup, and her parents John Jacob and Margaret (Fink) Schieber, were natives of Wuerttemberg, Germany, and emigrated to America and settled in the state of Ohio, where Jacob Shoup, father of the subject of our sketch, was born in 1852, in Crawford County, Ohio. In 1855, Peter Shoup, with his large family, including Jacob, moved into Williams County, Ohio, again taking up new land to clear for a home.

What measure of success was attained by Harvey E. Shoup, is due no doubt to a great extent to his courtesy and sincere willingness to lend unselfish service not only while holding public office but also in his dealings with the public as an insurance agent, attorney, and real estate broker. In spite of the discouraging handicap of his ill health, he bravely bore his pain and hardship uncomplainingly and won many friends, a good clientele and practice.

Unselfish service has been his code throughout the years and this is attested by the fact that for twenty-one years he held the office of Secretary of the Angola Lions Club, having been one of the charter members of the Club. For over thirty-five years he has served as recording steward of the Angola Methodist Church; he is now Secretary-Treasurer of the Angola Chamber of Commerce, Inc., having served in that capacity for seven years.

He is also Secretary of the Steuben County Bar Association, having held that office since the year 1948. Although none of the secretarial work has been very remunerative, the contacts and lasting friendships gained thereby have been enjoyed and cherished by Mr. Shoup as sacred memories much more than any material riches.

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### Biography of Leo Jacob Sines

Leo Jacob Sines, farmer and former businessman, Richland Township, was born in Northwest Township of Williams County, Ohio, on November 29, 1902, the son of Henry and Jennie (Powers) Sines. He was graduated from the Rahway Trade School of Cincinnati, Ohio, and married Lena Lucille Bell at Metz, Indiana, on November 29, 1922. They began housekeeping on the Sines Farm of 130 acres where the Montpelier, Ohio, Airport now stands.

He went into business there (1926) operating Sines Motor Service. He also later operated Sines Motor Service in Hillrose, Colorado; Detroit, Michigan; and Alvarado, Indiana, and came permanently to Richland Township in 1940. He is a former member of the Montpelier Chamber of Commerce, Pleasant Hill Grange, K. of P. Lodge, and several other organizations. He also attended the United Brethren, Presbyterian, and Methodist churches with his parents, and later, in communities where he lived.

The Sines's had one child, Leo Junior, who gave his life in World War II, the only casualty from Richland Township, which made them Gold Star parents.

The first Sines in America, Adam, came from Germany to Lancaster, Pa., during the 1700's. Simon, great-grandfather of Leo Jacob, came to Ohio and settled near Stryker before 1843, and married Rebecca, the daughter of Rev. Fletcher Bishop. They raised sixteen children and died on this homestead. The eldest son, Jacob, married Sarah Moulton. They had eleven children. He farmed and died in Williams County at his son Henry's place in 1921. The second son, Henry, was born January 23, 1872, near Stryker, and attended Fayette Normal School. He became a progressive poultry farmer, charter Farm Bureau member, Federal Land Bank Appraiser for 10 years, member of the School Board, and an active Christian from 17 years of age until his death in 1952 at 80 years of age. He married (1894) Jennie Powers, and their

children were: Cyril (Trustee N.W. Twp., O., 18 years), Volney, Leo Jacob, and Viola.

Solomon Sines, brother of Simon, settled at Clear Lake, Steuben County, Indiana, and lost his life there in a tragedy on July 4, 1858. As recorded in the county history of last century, eleven persons drowned. The accident was witnessed by Volney Powers.

Two "Powers Family" histories have been published. Each time thirty years was taken to compile the statistics. The first was by Amos Powers (1884), and the second by Viola Powers Amidon (1937) for the 100th anniversary of the Powers settlement in Steuben County, Indiana. It traces the family from Ireland to England, and then to Walter Powers who resided in Concord, Massachusetts, and who married Tryal Shephard, the daughter of the Ralph Shephards who came to America on the ship "Abigail" in 1635. Their descendants are as follows: Walter, 1639 or 40; Daniel, 1669; Jonathan, 1704; Oliver, 1741; Josiah, 1772; Stephen, 1800; Volney, 1838; Jennie (Powers) Sines, 1876; Leo Jacob Sines, 1902; Leo Junior Sines, 1923.

The most prominent descendants of Walter Powers were Llewellyn Powers, formerly Governor of Maine; Abigail Powers, wife of President Millard Fillmore; Hiram Powers, the famous sculptor of Cincinnati, Ohio. Older county histories record much of the Powers's and their part in the development of the county.

Stephen, the great-grandfather of Leo Jacob, emigrated with his three brothers from New York State, forming the Powers settlement in York Township one mile north of Metz on July 8, 1837. He taught 42 winter terms of school and volunteered with his three sons for service in the Civil War. He was York Township's first postmaster, school teacher, and Justice of the Peace—marrying the first couple. Other duties were: County Surveyor for 15 years, County Commissioner, and County School Examiner. Later he farmed, owning 400 acres in Clear Lake Township, and was the Township Trustee for several years. His son, Volney, was the first white child born in York Township and was the only son to return from the Civil War. He had purchased land near Ainger, Ohio, before the war, and afterward returned there, married Martha Kimmell and raised eight children. Their daughter, Jennie, married Henry Sines. Volney died in 1914 and is buried in Powers Cemetery near his birthplace. For 36 years he was

a deacon and charter member of the Eagle Creek Presbyterian Church, school teacher, township clerk, and Justice of the Peace, and farmed all his life.

Lena (Bell) Sines was born in Richland Township, Steuben County, Indiana, on August 16, 1903, the only child of Samuel and Eva (Rosenberry) Bell. She was graduated from the Montpelier High School in 1922 and is a member of the Alvarado Methodist Church and the following societies: Women's Society, Indiana Historical society, Hamilton Pythian Sisters, Gold Star Mothers, and was active during World War II in Bond drives, Civilian Defense, and Veterans Hospitals.

George Bell, English, settled in Virginia in the 1700's and his descendants were: Hezekiah; Milton; Samuel, who was Lena's father. Hezekiah married Eliza Ann, the sister of Rev. N. J. Baldwin. They were Methodists. They had fifteen children: Milton, the eldest son, born (1838) in Maryland, married Jane Jones, born in Ohio and came to Richland Township, Steuben County, Indiana (1863). Jane's mother was Phoebe Calvert of Virginia born October 20, 1799, thus a Calvert of Virginia of the family of Lord Baltimore. Phoebe married John Jones, and they emigrated to 700 acres of land in Noble County, Ohio. John died there and Phoebe died in Steuben County, Indiana, and is buried in Bethel Cemetery. Of their 16 children, seven came to Richland Township. Milton Bell also had six brothers and sisters who came to the township, their parents both dying in Ohio.

Milton joined the Bethel U. B. Church, but Jane remained a Baptist. Of their eight children, the youngest son, Samuel, owned the homestead over 80 years until he sold it and retired. He died April 25, 1953, and with his second wife, Harriet (Goodale) Bell who died in 1941, is buried at Circle Hill Cemetery in Angola. Both were members of the Christian Church. They had a daughter, Mildred Irene, who was born in 1916, who is now Mrs. Thomas Bales and resides in LaPorte, Indiana. They have two children, Barbara and Phillip King. Harriet (Goodale) Bell was a granddaughter of Gera and Louisa (Letcher) Goodale of Letcher settlement in Richland Township, near Metz, who were so proud of their nephew and cousin, James A. Garfield who was president. His famous canal experience was while employed by them. Gera built the first frame house in the township.



Eva (Rosenberry) Bell, mother of Mrs. Sines, was the daughter of Walter and Corintha (Robinett) Rosenberry. As a protege of her grandfather, Rev. George Robinett, she began an early and active Christian life by teaching the Adult Class at the Bethel U. B. Church at 15 years of age. She died at 29 years of age (1908) and is buried in the church cemetery. Rev. Robinett was one of the youngest ordained U. B. Ministers. The Rosenberry homestead is there still, and is owned by a Rosenberry. The Rosenberry and Robinett families both came from France to Ohio, and then pioneered in DeKalb County, Indiana. The Robinett family history has been compiled by LeRoy Robinett of Metz.

### Biography of Leo Junior Sines

Leo Junior Sines, deceased, was born on his great-grandfather Bell's homestead in Richland Township on December 6, 1923. He was graduated



from the Metz High School in 1942 as an honor student and a member of the basketball team. In Ohio he was a member of the Future Farmers of America and the Four-H club. He was also a winner in scholastic tests for two years at Bowling Green, Ohio, and was selected the outstanding student at the Detroit, Michigan, school of

800 pupils when he was 13 years old. He was employed by Purdue University as Dairy Herd Improvement Assoc. Supervisor with offices with the County Agent of Allen County in the Federal Bldg. at Fort Wayne until volunteering at Angola for the Navy in March, 1943.

He received Boot training at the Great Lakes Center, Ill., and was graduated later from Corps School there in a class of 500. He went overseas in December, 1943, to Hollandia, New Guinea, helping to establish Naval base hospital (No. 18) there. He was stricken ill in January 1945, and was returned to the Corona, California, Navy Hospital. He was later discharged to the Veterans hospital in Milwaukee, Wis., and died there on April 12, 1946. He was promoted five times, his final rating being Pharmacists mate third class. Military funeral rites were held at Alvarado, Indiana, Methodist Church, where he was a member. The burial was at Montpelier, Ohio, on the Sines family plot in Riverside Cemetery. He was a member of the Corona chapter

of the Disabled American Veterans. He was engaged for over three years to a faithful Metz school mate.

He came from a long line of patriots so he did not feel he was dying in vain. Six Sines sons volunteered, and four Powers, father and three sons, in the Civil war, as well as six maternal ancestors, six of these dying in war. In the Revolutionary war an ancestor, Oliver Powers, defended his country in the first battle, Concord and Lexington, after Paul Revere's famous ride.

The inscription on Leo Junior's marker reads—"He gave his todays for our tomorrows." His parents, Leo Jacob and Lena Sines, purchased (1947) a pioneer farm in Richland Township, settled in April 1836, and reside there. Mr. Sines has been employed during the past year on the Ohio Toll Road.

### Biography of Frank Strock

Frank Strock was born in Wayne County, Ohio, near Wooster, on August 28th, 1881. He was the son of Daniel W. and Addie P. (Troutman) Strock.



Their children were six in number: Frank T., Jay P., Earl Wayne, Mary (deceased), Fannie, and Florence.

For over fifty years the Strock family has been identified with the Grain and Seed business of Hudson and the surrounding community.

His father became owner of the Hudson Elevator in 1903, and Frank Strock came to Indiana to study the prospects. He returned to Ohio with a favorable report and a week later located in Hudson and opened the Elevator for business. His father was born in Wayne County, and owned a farm, but also did an extensive business in the shipping of hay and potatoes. For seven years previous to locating in Hudson, Frank Strock spent about three months each fall in Pittsburgh, Pa., selling the shipments his father sent there. His father died Nov. 26th, 1909, at the age of fifty-seven, but his mother lived to the age of ninety, passing away December 24, 1945.

Frank Strock acquired his early education in the public schools of Wayne County, and his practical business knowledge under his father's direction. He opened the Grain Elevator at Hudson

August 1st, 1903, and has been continuously in the business since that time. He became owner about 1908.

At one time he was engaged in the growing and buying of onions. Two large onion and potato storages were constructed just west of the Elevator in the years of 1912 and 1923. Others interested in that project were: Mr. Roy Waterman, Mr. C. A. Hardy, Mr. R. J. Pfingstag, and Mr. V. R. Pfingstag.

He was director and stockholder of the Auburn Hardware which was sold to Hibbard, Spencer, and Bartlett Company of Chicago, in 1953.

Mr. Strock is a Trustee of the Hudson Methodist Church, is affiliated with the local Masonic and Eastern Star Lodges, also the Royal Arch Chapter and the Commandery of Angola, and the Scottish Rite Consistory and Mystic Shrine of Fort Wayne.

Mr. Strock was Clerk of the Town for a period of time and served on the School Board. He was on the Building Committee when the Methodist Church was remodeled in 1916-17 and has been Secretary of the Masonic Lodge for a period of forty-five years.

On March 20th, 1906, he married Ada Grieve Ketchum, daughter of Joseph and Frances (Grieve) Ketchum. Their two sons are Paul Wayne, born Oct. 10th, 1911, and Carl A., born August 24, 1918.

Paul has been associated with his father in the Grain Elevator since his graduation from Miami University in 1933, with the exception of three years spent in Service. He married Miss Helen M. Bruner of Kendallville, Indiana, October 12th, 1940. They have one son, Stephen Frank, born Oct. 9th, 1947.

Carl was graduated from DePauw University in 1941 and was then employed by the Auburn Wholesale Hardware and continued in that position under the Hibbard, Spencer, and Bartlett Company until August 31st, 1954. He purchased the Jerry Jacob's Store for Men and Boys in Angola and took over operation of the clothing store Sept. 1st, 1954. He married Miss Grace Iddings of Kendallville, Oct. 1st, 1945.

### Biography of Lugenia Maria Ireland Shell-Stuller

Lugenia Maria Ireland was the eldest child of James A. Ireland and Sarah Bracy Ireland. She

was born near Spencerville, Allen County, Indiana, May 15, 1843. Her sisters were Mesdames Flora A. Monroe, Artemissia V. Chandler, and Cecelia A. Morley, and her brothers were Edward B. and James A. Ireland, Jr.



She attended her first term of school in Spencerville at the age of five years. The next year her family moved to Scipio Township where she attended District School until she was fifteen years of age when she entered the Newville Seminary. In the fall of 1859 she began teaching in Scipio Township and taught in that Township and Springfield Township alternately for six years while waiting for her fiance, Captain George Washington Shell, Company "D," 44th Indiana Regiment Volunteer Infantry, to return from the War between the States.

Upon his return they were married March 28, 1865. They had one daughter, Cora Dell Shell. Captain Shell had been so seriously wounded and his health so impaired from military service that he passed away December 27, 1869, after great suffering.

On June 24, 1875, Mrs. Shell was married to William H. Stuller, whose father built the first house in Edon, Ohio. They had one daughter, Harriet C. Stuller. The subject of our biography was again widowed after Mr. Stuller met with a tragic accident and passed away April 24, 1881.

Mrs. Stuller then bought an eighty acre farm three-quarters of a mile south of Alvarado, Section 19, Richland Township, Steuben County, Indiana, where with her two children she kept the home fires burning for several years. She then moved back to Edon, Ohio, for a few years when, about 1895, she moved to Angola, Indiana, which she called home for the remainder of her life, having bought property on South West Street.

Mrs. Stuller was a communicant of the First Methodist Church and a member of the Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. Her maternal immigrant ancestor, John May, came in the year 1640 from Mayfield, Sussex County, England, to Roxbury, Massachusetts. Of Revolutionary War stock, two ancestors, Captain Nehemiah May and his son, Ezra May, served during the War of the Revolution.

She passed away May 24, 1924, leaving two



daughters, Cora Shell Lash, Angola, Indiana, and Harriet Stuller Rodway, Muskegon, Michigan, and a granddaughter, Edna Lugenia Lash Thomas, Arlington, Virginia.

She is buried among members of three generations of her family in the Edon Cemetery, Edon, Ohio, where all are buried with their faces to the East so that on Resurrection Morning all will arise facing the Rising Sun.

### Biography of Henry Sunday

Henry Sunday was born on July 2, 1869 on a farm in section 8 of Steuben Township. To date the farm has been under the continuous ownership of the Sunday family for over 90 years.



Henry's parents were Andrew and Mary (Ritter) Sunday who spent the greater part of their lives in Steuben Township.

Henry was educated in the Steuben Township School, and at the age of 21 took over the responsibilities of the farm which was about 120 acres at this time.

On September 21, 1892, Henry married Dora Hoyer who was born April 26, 1873, in Williams County, Ohio. Her parents were Jacob and Sarah (Saul) Hoyer.

Henry and Dora have two daughters: Vera G., born March 6, 1897, who married B. G. Swager. They have two sons, Ned and Don.

Dessa M., born May 17, 1902, who married C. H. Wolf. They have one son, Dean, and three daughters, Willa Jean, Donna Mae, and Nancy Lee.

In addition to the above mentioned grandchildren they have ten great-grandchildren. These are listed with their parents below.

Ned married Phyllis Hannold.

Don married Maxine Jenkins and they have three children, Marcia Kay, Gary Lynn, and Robert Allen.

Dean married Maxine Enfield and they have two boys, Gordon Dean and Jeffrey Max.

Donna May married Sam Adams and they have

three children, Patricia Jo, Bruce Eric, and Samuel David.

Nancy Lee married George Sharpe.

Willa Jean married Wendell Resler. They have two children, Mika Lynne and Gregory Allen.

### Biography of Russell Hezekiah Taylor

Russell Hezekiah Taylor, the son of Oscar Hamilton Taylor and Elizabeth Leas Taylor (pioneer residents of DeKalb County, Indiana), was born December 31, 1895, in DeKalb County. He received his schooling at Hamilton grammar school and high school and Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana.

He was married July 23, 1919, to Madge Chapman, who died November 15, 1921. Later, on May 28, 1924, he was married to Elizabeth (Betty) Vaughn. He had three children: Roscoe Chapman Taylor, who lives in DeKalb County; Jean Annette Taylor, now Mrs. Richard Stacy Edwards, of Rensselaer, Indiana; and Gwen Elizabeth Taylor, who lives in Hamilton.

Russell Taylor was a Rural Mail carrier out of Hamilton for a period of twenty-eight years.

During his high school and college years he worked for his father in the Hamilton Bank in the summer vacations. Upon the death of his father he became co-owner of the Bank with his brothers, John L. Taylor and Benna B. Taylor. In December of 1950 he became sole owner of the Bank. Altogether, he spent thirty-nine years in the Hamilton Bank and rendered a very worthwhile service to the people of the community.

On June 15, 1918, he enlisted and served in Company D, Indiana Infantry, being honorably discharged as a Private First Class on January 13, 1919.

Mr. Taylor was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Hamilton and of the American Legion Post #47 at Fort Wayne. He was also a member of Butler chapter 106 R.A.M. and Butler Council #83 R. & S.M., the I.O.O.F. of Hamilton, and the Hamilton Eastern Star and Rebekah Lodge. He was affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Hamilton.

His death occurred on March 2, 1954.

### Biography of Edna Lugenia Lash Thomas

Edna Lugenia Lash, only child of Calvin L. and Cora Shell Lash, was born April 3, 1889, in Rich-

land Township, Steuben County, Indiana. Her early years were spent here where she attended the District School until the family moved to Angola, Indiana, in March, 1905.

She then entered the Angola High School from which she was graduated in 1909. In 1912 she was graduated from Tri-State College with the degree of Bachelor of Commercial Science. She then went to Los Angeles, California, where she taught for two years in the Business School of the Young Women's Christian Association.

When World War I was declared she was one of the first from Steuben County to take up Government Work in Washington, D. C. She was employed in the War Department until the Armistice was signed and then transferred to the Treasury Department where she was employed for several years.

Mrs. Thomas attends and supports the Christian Science Church. She is a member of Samuel Gorton Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution; Unity Chapter, No. 22, Order of the Eastern Star; and the National Geographic Society, all of Washington, D.C., and of the Woman's Democratic Club.

Her husband, Harvey Benjamin Thomas, a World War I Veteran and retired Government employee, passed away June 30, 1949. Mrs. Thomas maintains her home at 1215 N. Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, Virginia, where she and her husband took up residence thirty years ago.

### Biography of Horace Newell VanAuken, Jr.

Horace Newell VanAuken, Jr., was born October 23, 1879, in Steuben Township, Steuben County, Indiana. He died at the Elmhurst Hospital in Angola, Indiana, Sunday morning, July 1, 1951, at the age of 72 years.



His father was Horace Newell VanAuken, Sr., who with his parents Jacob and Nancy Strawway VanAuken, migrated to Steuben township from Chagrin Falls, Ohio, in October, 1860. Here the family established its home on a farm four miles southeast of Angola.

His mother was Mary Elizabeth McMillen whose parents, Wooster and Mary Bullard McMillen, came to Steuben Township by ox cart from Sandusky, Ohio, in 1836. Here they purchased, from

the government, 160 acres of land, two miles east of Pleasant Lake where they made their home which still remains in the family and upon which Horace VanAuken, Jr., resided until his death.

Horace VanAuken, Jr., was one of three sons and five daughters born to Mary and Horace VanAuken, Sr. Two of the daughters and one son, Carl, died in early childhood. The oldest sister, Mary VanAuken Rinehart, passed away in March, 1912. A half-brother, Earnest, died February, 1949. Amy VanAuken Fifer departed this life in June, 1950. Mrs. Etta VanAuken Hanselman died Dec. 24th, 1954.

Horace VanAuken received his elementary education at a country school near his home, two and one half miles southeast of Angola. Later, he attended Tri-State College. During his youth he was a faithful aid to his father on their large and picturesque farm.

On October 30, 1901, he was united in marriage to Catherine Kratzer, daughter of Margaret Zabst and Joseph Kratzer. She was a school teacher from Scott Township. They made their home on the McMillen homestead two miles east of Pleasant Lake, Indiana. They had three children. Donald Zabst, who married Myrtle Dement, is residing on a farm near London, Ohio. Basil Elmo, who married Zoa Freed, has three children, Darlene June, a student at Indiana University, Jack Paul, and Tommy Joseph, who are attending the Pleasant Lake School. Basil and his family live in the same location where the log cabin once stood, which was built by his great-grandfather, Wooster McMillen, in 1836. Arlene Elizabeth was graduated from the Indiana University School of Music in 1932, and taught music in the Indiana Public Schools for ten years. From 1944 to 1946, she was on the Red Cross Overseas Training Staff at American University, Washington, D. C. She married Enos Parsell of Angola, where they now reside. They have two children, Kathryn Lynn and James Horace.

At the time of their marriage, Horace and Catherine VanAuken joined the Methodist Church of Angola. Two years later, they transferred their membership to the United Brethren Church in Pleasant Lake, where, throughout the years, they worked tirelessly for the betterment of Christian living in the community. Horace served many years as Sunday School Superintendent, trustee, and teacher. He was a member of the Masonic and Eastern Star Lodges for 35 years. He was intensely interested in civic projects and gave freely of



his money and time whenever called upon. He read extensively in the sciences and history, and was a biblical authority. He enjoyed music and sang for many years in the Church Choir. The welfare of his family was uppermost in his mind. He was a successful farmer, helped others, and believed firmly in the philosophy that "the real riches of good living come to those who work for them and live well."

### Biography of Otis Van Pelt

Otis, son of Samuel and Mary Morrow Van Pelt, was born in Mathias, Cattaraugus County, New York, on June 6, 1830.

He came with his parents to Steuben County, Indiana, in the year 1844, when the country was still a wilderness. The family settled in what is now Salem Township, and cleared their land. Samuel and Mary Van Pelt were the parents of nine children, and seven generations of this family have lived in Salem Township.

On September 4, 1853, Otis was married to Naoma A. Chaffee, a teacher, who came from a very religious family, two of her brothers being ministers. Otis and Naoma were also deeply religious, and were strong supporters of the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

They traded a yoke of oxen, a wedding present, for forty acres in Salem Township, cleared the land, and built a log house. In later years lumber was hauled from LaGrange with horses and a wagon to build the new house.

To Otis and Naoma were born three children, two of whom died in infancy.

Otis Van Pelt enlisted in Company H, 53rd Regiment, Indiana Infantry, on September 21, 1864, and served until the close of the war. He was a Republican and at one time served as Constable.

His wife died May 16, 1870, and in 1872 he was married to Euphema Call, who passed away October 5, 1905. He spent the last fifteen years of his life with his son, Otis Minor Van Pelt, and family. At the age of seventy Mr. Van Pelt suffered a back injury which caused him to be a semi-invalid the rest of his life. His time was spent reading and studying the Bible, which he read seven times during his invalidism. He loved children, and was greatly devoted to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Near the close of his life he suffered greatly, but he remained patient to the end. Mr. Van Pelt died March 31, 1920, at the age

of 89 years, at the farm home where he had lived for more than sixty years.

The son, Otis Minor Van Pelt, continued to live on the farm until about 1940, when he moved to Helmer. He and his wife, Mary Jane, who died in 1943, were members of the Church of God. They celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary in 1941, holding Open House for friends and relatives.

Otis Minor and Mary Jane Van Pelt had five children: Naoma (Mrs. Dee Ferris); William, who married Bessie Ensley; Ella (Mrs. Gus Parr); Imo (Mrs. Russell Brooks); and Daisy (Mrs. Lawrence Deetz). They also had fourteen grandchildren and thirty-four great-grandchildren.

Otis Minor was an accomplished violinist, and played with various musical groups for many years. He passed away in 1948.

### Biography of Walter Ward

Walter Ward was born on May 19, 1870, on a farm at the head of Fox Lake. He was the son of Ancil and Susan Ward. He lived many years at the farm which was his birthplace, then, after living a number of years in Angola, he moved to Hudson, Indiana, in March 1942, where he is now residing. He was for many years a farmer and in later years was a dealer in used furniture.



His life has been spent in conscientiously working toward the betterment of the community in which he lived. He has been very active in politics, being always on the prohibitionist slate. Among other duties he has held the position of Prohibition County Chairman, and served on the committee for twenty years. He was in charge of the Paltytown prohibition meeting on or about July 4, 1891.

On December 1, 1890, he married Ida Griffin, the daughter of Charles and Jane Griffin, who lived one mile west of the head of Fox Lake, where he lived at this time. Ida was born on August 1, 1867, and departed this life on May 22, 1954.

Mr. Ward was the last man to sell milk in Angola when it was measured out by the quart and pint. He made one trip on which he only took in five cents, and a few others on which he netted fifteen cents. He sold his route in just

eighteen months for enough money to buy forty acres of land.

During his lifetime Mr. Ward has given extensively, financially, to many religious projects and organizations. Also he is one of the founders and manager of the Farmers Cooperative Shippers Association.

### Biography of Roscoe Watkins

Roscoe Watkins was born in Otsego Township on February 19, 1883, the son of Homer and Emily (Haughey) Watkins. His paternal grandparents were Simpson and Adelia (Thompson) Watkins, and his maternal grandparents were Timothy and Mary Catherine (Garst) Haughey. He has a brother, Harold, and a sister, Josephine. They had another sister, Odie, who died in 1928 at the age of thirty-eight.



In 1911 he married Georgina Lyle Todd, whose parents were William and Mary Jane (Carr) Todd, of Oxford County, Ontario. To this marriage six children were born: Lyle Roscoe, at home; Marjorie Adelia, who married Ray McFadden; Robert Norman, who married Anna Grace Springer and has two children, Robert Norman Jr. and David William; Mary Emily, who married Robert Lowe of Bryan, Ohio, and has three children, Robert Todd, Jean Anne, and Debra Dee; Quentin Homer; and David William, who died in infancy. Another daughter, Mary Virginia Watkins Friend, has one child, Marcia, and is a child of his former marriage.

Roscoe Watkins was graduated from Tri-State College and taught in the grade schools of Otsego Township and was principal of the Hamilton High School for four years. He was elected to two terms as Trustee of Otsego Township, and was serving in that office when he died in 1941, on Sept. 8. He was a Past Master of the Masonic Lodge, and a firm believer in the American Government and the heritage of the American people. For many years he operated the Cold Springs Resort, which was started by his father and is the oldest resort in this part of the country. In this capacity he became widely known, and was a man who made many friends. He enjoyed nature and spent many hours of his boyhood and manhood hunting, and fishing on the lake.

### Biography of Orlie Willennar

Orlie Willennar was born February 28, 1903, near Pleasant Lake in Steuben County, the son of John and Eda Fee Willennar. He has a younger brother, Edgar, living near Hamilton.

Orlie attended one room country schools until 1918 when his parents moved to a farm south of Hamilton, in Franklin Township, DeKalb County. From that time he went to school in Hamilton where he was graduated from High School in the year 1923. He enrolled in the Normal School of Tri-State College in Angola and was graduated in 1925.

In 1931 he was united in marriage to Berta Merchant of Ashley, also a native of Steuben County, and a teacher. They bought a farm in Franklin Township where they have lived since 1933.

At present Mr. Willennar is teaching in the Salem Center School, after having taught in the elementary school of Steuben and DeKalb Counties for thirty-one years.

He is now serving a three-year term on the Executive Board of the Indiana State Teachers Association representing the fourth district.

### Honorable Raymond E. Willis Biography

Note: This biography was prepared in the office of the Publisher of this History.

Raymond Eugene Willis was born August 11, 1875, at Waterloo, Indiana, the son of Frank Welcome and Josephine Dickinson Willis. From Wabash College he received his A.B. in 1896, and his Honorary A.M. in 1901. He was married June 15, 1902, to Mary Adelaide Taylor.



He began his vocational career as printer's apprentice with the Waterloo Press in 1889. With Elias O. Rose, was editor and publisher of the Angola Magnet from 1898 to 1907, was associate editor of the Steuben Republican from 1907 to 1938, and has since retired from active editorial duties. He is now President of the Steuben Printing Company.

He was postmaster of Angola from 1910 to 1914, President Steuben County Chamber of Commerce 1924-25, Director of Steuben County Chapter American Red Cross 1920, Chairman Steuben Council of Defense 1917-18, Member Indiana State Legislature 1919-21, floor leader 1920, elected to



U. S. Senate 1940 for term ending January 3, 1947. Member Indiana Republican Editorial Association, Phi Delta Theta, Sigma Delta Chi, is a Congregationalist, Mason 33rd degree. Clubs: Charter member Angola Rotary Club, Past District Governor 20th District R.I. 1934-35; Indiana Society (Chicago); Columbia Club, Indianapolis; Military Order Loyal Legion; Sons of American Revolution. Home: 212 South West Street, Angola, Indiana.

This skeleton biography, as taken from "Who's Who" scarcely gives us a true picture of Raymond Willis. His influence has been widely felt throughout the county and has doubtless changed the course of many lives. He has been active in many community projects and has given freely of his time and money in all civic enterprises. He was one of the leaders in the establishment of Lake James (now Pokagon) State Park, and of the Soldiers Monument on the Angola public square. He is a member of the Past Presidents of America.

His political career is best summarized in this introduction, delivered at a meeting of the Editorial Association held in his honor in 1953: "There was no rosy sun-lighted dawn in the opening of the Republican campaign sixteen years ago. The party had suffered the most disastrous defeat in its history in the previous campaign of 1936 when F. D. Roosevelt carried the state with a majority of 275,000 votes.

"Feeling that a new philosophy and a new face would be necessary to rally the voters, many politically minded citizens from various parts of the state urged Raymond E. Willis to become a candidate in this discouraging situation. He was nominated in an open convention in a field of five candidates.

"Ray made a personal canvas into almost every nook and corner of the state, but three days after election it was announced that Senator VanNuys, who had vigorously opposed President Roosevelt's Court Packing Bill and was supported by many independent voters, had been reelected by 5,000 votes.

"For his splendid campaign, Willis was deemed worthy of another try and was renominated without opposition in 1940. With the same energetic canvas of the state, he was elected in the fall by the largest vote ever cast in Indiana for a United States Senator, which record was not exceeded until two years ago." He succeeded Sherman A.

Minton, who was afterward appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court.

During his term in the Senate he was a member of the Committees on Post Offices and Post Roads, Printing, Naval Affairs, Agriculture and Appropriations. In agriculture he was appointed on the sub-committees for the development of synthetic rubber, for investigation of hoarding of food products, and to represent the Republican membership as adviser in the formation of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations at the meetings held in Quebec and Copenhagen.

Willis early allied himself with the leaders of the movement to prevent the United States from engaging in the wars in Europe. After Pearl Harbor he gave full hearted support to every movement to strengthen the military power of the United States in World War II. He advised caution in the formation of international alliances. Senator Vandenberg, in his recently published memoirs, gives credit to Senator Willis for introducing the first resolution requiring that all agreements with other nations must be submitted to the Senate for approval.

Willis introduced the first bill for the organization of a Woman's Naval Reserve, later known as the Waves, which became a valuable support to our country's military effort. Through the efforts of his office the United States Naval Air Training Station was established at Bunker Hill.

In the Republican State Convention of 1946 when a contest developed on the part of others with personal ambitions for the nomination, he withdrew his name from consideration in the interest of party harmony.

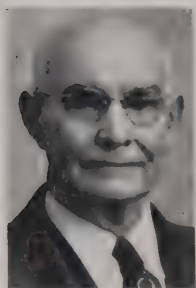
In 1940, 1944, 1948, and 1952, he was a Delegate-at-Large to the Republican National Conventions. He vigorously supported for nomination in 1952 his close friend, the late Robert A. Taft, of Ohio, and as vigorously supported the successful nominee, Dwight D. Eisenhower, for his election in the fall.

Since 1947 he has been a trustee of Tri-State College, and served for two years as chairman of the Board in the establishment of the college as a non-profit community institution.

(Steuben County lost one of its best-loved and most-respected citizens when Mr. Willis passed away unexpectedly March 21st, 1956.)

### Biography of Samuel C. Wolfe, D.D.S.

Dr. Samuel C. Wolfe was born February 7, 1870, the youngest son of Samuel A. and Nancy (Disbro) Wolfe. He was the youngest of four children, his birthplace being the farm home, one and one-half miles south and east of Fremont, Indiana.



He obtained his early education in the Boyd District School close to his home, some of his teachers being: Emmett Bratton, Frank Noyes, Adelbert Tillotson, and Miss Eva Garn. At the age of 14 he moved to Fremont, where he attended and completed high school under such teachers as Asher Preston and William Snyder. After high school, Dr. Wolfe enrolled for a teachers course at Tri State College, completing this course in 1887. He received a six months' certificate to teach, but this was side-tracked for a position in the W. L. Scott General Store, where he was employed for about four years. During this time he invented, and patented, a straight Rail Farm Fence, and the Clearoscope Windshield Wiper. Many thousands of these were marketed.

While in the Scott Store, Mr. Wolfe became interested in Dentistry, and in the fall of 1886, matriculated in the Ohio College of Dental Surgery at Cincinnati, from which he was graduated in 1899, receiving honorable mention for best General Examinations, a silver medal for best attainments in Prosthetic Dentistry, also a silver medal for best attainments in Crown and Bridge work.

Dr. Wolfe was married to Alice L. Martin, at the Martin Home on Sugar Grove Farm at Clear Lake, by her father, Rev. James Martin. Since they were married two days prior to graduation he, together with his lovely bride, and his father, Samuel A. Wolfe, returned to Cincinnati to take part in the graduation ceremonies.

Having previously purchased the office of Dr. Mathew Gilbert, who was at that time in failing health, he opened for practice, spending twenty years at this one location in the Zipfel Block. Moving to the Humphreys Block in the early twenties, he remained in active practice until 1951, when after fifty-two years of active practice the business was taken over by Dr. C. B. Anderson.

Immediately after entering practice, he became a member of the Indiana State Dental Association,

and the Isaac Knapp Dental Coterie, and was awarded a life membership in the State Association in 1949, as well as a life membership in the American Dental Association in 1927.

He was associated with Dr. L. L. Wolfe, his son, for fourteen years, from 1927 to 1941, when the younger Doctor moved to Butler, Indiana. Dr. Wolfe considers these years the happiest in his experience.

He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, a charter member of the Angola Rotary Club, the Masonic and K. of P. Lodges, and is a member of the Congregational Church.

Politically, he is a Republican.

As a hobby, Dr. Wolfe enjoys fishing, baseball, also travel, and the time he spends at his lake cottage. He has almost grown up with the Automobile Industry, having bought his first car, a single cylinder Cadillac, in 1904. It was the first in the county and was the first gasoline car bought at the first Auto Show Hall in Detroit. Through the years he has had various other makes, up to his present day Chrysler.

Dr. Wolfe resides at 208 South West Street, Angola, Indiana. His wife, Alice, passed away in November of 1951.

### Biography of Honorable Alphonso Calvin Wood

Alphonso Calvin Wood, the only son of Theodore Frelinghuysen and Elizabeth (Powers) Wood, both of whom were children of pioneer settlers in DeKalb and Steuben Counties, was born in the village of Metz, January 23, 1874, where he lived until December, 1892, when the family moved to Angola where he has since resided.

June 28, 1899, he was united in marriage with Miss Mayme Moffet, the only daughter of Thomas R. and Mary A. Moffett, both of whom were children of pioneer settlers of Steuben County. They celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary June 28, 1954. Mrs. Wood is noted as an outstanding homemaker and hostess; she has been active in social affairs, was at one time a member of the Sorosis Circle of Angola, is a member of the Order of Eastern Star Chapter in Angola, and although never seeking recognition or any office in the Order, has been active in assisting in its activities.

They have one son, Theodore T. Wood, a brilliant attorney, who has been admitted to practice



by the Supreme Courts of Indiana and Michigan, and the United States District Court of Indiana.

Dr. T. T. Wood has been elevated to the Presidency of Tri-State College, Angola, Indiana.

Alphonso Calvin Wood attended and completed the course of study in the district schools of York and Richland Townships. Upon moving to Angola he entered Tri-State College where he completed the Classical Course and was graduated in July, 1895, with the degree of A.B. He entered the Law Department of the University of Michigan in 1896 and was graduated in June, 1899, receiving the degree of LL.B. He was thereafter admitted to practice of the law by the Supreme Courts of Indiana and Michigan in the United States District Court of Indiana and the Supreme Court of the United States. After being graduated from the University of Michigan he returned to Angola where he has since been continuously engaged in the active practice of the law; except for the period from January 1, 1931, to December 31, 1938, during which time he served as one of the six Judges of the Appellate Court of Indiana.

He has been very active in the different branches of the Masonic Fraternity, and in recognition of his services he was elected to receive the 33rd. Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, which degree was conferred in September, 1925. He was elected Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star for the State of Indiana, serving in that capacity for one year, from April, 1933, to April, 1934.

Politically he has always cast his lot with the Democratic party and in his younger days gave incessantly of his time and energy to party organization and promotion of the principles for which the party stood.

He was elected town clerk for the town of Angola in 1901 and served in that capacity until 1905 when the town government was re-organized as a city; after which he served as the first City Attorney until 1908. During this time he wrote and supervised the publication of the first set of ordinances adopted by the City Council.

He was a member of the Board of School Trustees of the City of Angola for a period of nine years, from December, 1921, to 1930, during which time he served as President of the Board. It was

while he was a member of the Board that the trustees became deeply impressed with the fact that the school building then occupied was a serious fire hazard and that the situation must be corrected. The question was where to get the money. While there was no specific statute authorizing such a procedure at that time, the Board of Trustees, under his leadership, took it upon themselves to establish a building fund into which a certain amount of taxes collected was deposited each year, so that when it was possible to build the magnificent high school building which the city now has, the fund which had been accumulated enabled the city to proceed with its program without any financial embarrassment.

He spent about two years in Washington, D. C., where he served as secretary to the late Congressman Cyrus Cline. He was a member of the former Steuben County Chamber of Commerce and for some time served as its secretary; he served as secretary of the local conscription board from July, 1917, until the close of World War I. He was a charter member of the Angola Rotary Club and served as its President for one year.

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### Biography of Joseph Abel Woodhull

Joseph Abel Woodhull was born November 7, 1825, in northern New York State. His father was Henry F. Woodhull, direct descendant of General Nathaniel Woodhull of Revolutionary War fame. His mother was Sally Yale Woodhull, a direct descendant of Eli Yale, founder of Yale University.

After completing his formal education at Yale University, Joseph Abel Woodhull migrated west and, for a time, taught school in Tekonsha, Michigan. Later, he married Mary Brown of Fremont, Indiana, and located there for the practice of law. After about ten years of successful practice there, he moved to Angola where he later was made Judge of the Circuit Court. He served one or two terms in the State Legislature at Indianapolis.

He was a member of the Christian Church of Angola and a very devout Christian gentleman. His children were: Catherine, Cora, Ward, and Ray.

Judge Woodhull died in 1914 and is buried in Circle Hill Cemetery.

















